

Chapter 7 - Implementing the Florida Outdoor Recreation Plan

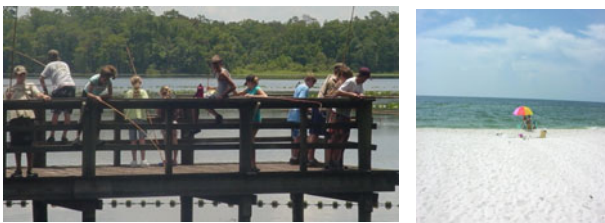
The preceding chapters of the plan have identified the current supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities, assessed statewide and regional demand and needs for recreation opportunities, and discussed the issues and trends that will affect outdoor recreation in Florida. This chapter outlines the plan's recommendations for implementing the state's outdoor recreation program.

A System of Lands

Florida's diverse public and private outdoor recreation lands, facilities, programs and managing agencies are bound together by one universally common trait - their ability to provide public recreational opportunities of one type or another. These various areas and the users they serve can be viewed to-

gether as an interconnected system. While tremendous progress has been made in acquiring the needed lands and providing the facilities and programs to support public use of the lands, relatively little has been done to integrate the efforts of the providers. The following statement is intended to describe an ideal, but as yet unrealized, recreation system for the state.

Florida's ideal outdoor recreation system will be a diverse, connected and balanced system of outdoor recreation resources, facilities and programs that provides the state's residents and visitors with a full range of outdoor recreation opportunities, regardless of their age, gender, ethnic background, economic status, physical or mental ability, or location within the state. The system will be coordinated at the state level with all agencies and suppliers working in tandem, and with ample opportunity for the public to participate in decision making. It will further the public's understanding and appreciation of Florida's environment and outdoor recreation resources.



Goals

Several broad, overarching goals have been developed for Florida's outdoor recreation system based on the information gathered in developing this plan. Since achieving these goals will require the full participation and support of many other agencies and organizations, both public and private, the goals are expressed in a manner that should allow their adoption by existing and potential partners. The goals are as follows:

1. Improve communication, coordination and cooperation among Florida's many public land management agencies and outdoor recreation providers.
2. Improve communication, coordination and cooperation between outdoor recreation providers and the public - user groups, non-profit organizations and other private interests.
3. Support the continuation and expansion of land acquisition programs for conservation and outdoor recreation throughout the state.
4. Provide additional opportunities for resource-based and user-oriented recreation in both urban and rural areas, with a wide range of facility development from the primitive to the fully developed.
5. Support programs to broaden the public's participation in outdoor recreation activities.
6. Improve access to recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities.
7. Promote a stewardship ethic, encourage volunteerism, and increase the public's understanding of the value and importance of Florida's public lands and their natural and cultural resources.
8. Increase funding and revenue generating capabilities for outdoor recreation.

Recommendations

The following recommendations stem from the suggestions received at the public workshops and from other information gathered during the plan's development. They are presented as specific actions that can be taken by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and other agencies and organizations in the state to achieve the broad goals of the plan.

Planning

Many suggestions were aimed at improving planning coordination among recreation providers. To some degree, this is already being done on the state level. Statewide land acquisition planning to support outdoor recreation is coordinated through DEP's Division of State Lands and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Land management plans for state owned lands are developed with public input from the local level and multi-agency review through the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Statewide greenways and trails planning is coordinated by DEP's Office of Greenways and Trails through the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. Planning for the provision of off-highway vehicles on public lands is coordinated by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Division of Forestry (DOF) through the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Advisory Committee.

As part of the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*, new requirements were created to improve coordination in land management planning and ensure more uniform reporting of land management data and accomplishments. New land management plans will include detailed information on outcomes, goals and objectives for a wide range of management areas, including public access and recreation infrastructure. The quantitative data collected for these plans will be standardized to allow for uniform reporting.

In addition to these improvements, the following recommendations are intended to further the existing planning and coordination processes.



1. DEP should improve the usefulness of the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan as a planning tool for public and private recreation planners. The plan should place greater focus on coordinating the outdoor recreation efforts of the state's land management agencies. A new assessment of statewide outdoor recreation demand and need should be completed prior to developing future plans. The outdoor recreation inventory should be improved by establishing criteria for defining certain facilities, by converting the inventory to Geographic Information System technology, and by incorporating methods to field-verify the data. Cooperation by local, state and federal agencies will be essential to these efforts.
2. DEP should continue using its Web site as a primary means for making the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan available to the public. It should promote the plan as the framework for a systems approach to recreation provision and management, and should encourage other public, private and non-profit recreation providers and user groups to play a larger role in the plan's development and implementation. The Web site should continue to provide a forum for feedback from the public and outdoor recreation providers.
3. State land managing agencies should work together to determine the most effi-

cient means for implementing the new land management planning requirements created by the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*. They should also work together to determine a method for assessing the recreation values of proposed *Florida Forever* land acquisition projects as part of the evaluation system maintained by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory.

4. Local governments that have not already done so should evaluate current and future local recreation needs and address those needs in their local comprehensive plans. Local recreation plans should be developed in a regional context in cooperation with other recreation providers in the region.
5. DEP should continue to work through existing advisory and coordination bodies to promote outdoor recreation and assist those bodies in planning to meet future outdoor recreation needs at the local, regional and statewide levels.

Interagency Coordination, Cooperation and Partnerships

There is a common perception that land managing agencies must do more to improve communication and cooperation with each other and with the public they serve. Responsibilities for providing recreation opportunities are widely dispersed among a number of public agencies and private suppliers, each functioning independently of the others with little coordination between them. The overlap of responsibilities among providers can result in a surplus of resources and facilities in some areas and deficits in others. Improved coordination, cooperation and partnerships among agencies would benefit the overall effort to provide recreation opportunities and could generate solutions to many of the issues facing outdoor recrea-

tion in Florida. The following recommendations are intended to further this goal.

1. DEP should initiate efforts to conduct a statewide forum on outdoor recreation to stimulate the coordination of efforts among public and private suppliers.
2. DEP should develop a mechanism for coordinating the outdoor recreation efforts of state land managing agencies.
3. DEP should develop a Web site for the public to obtain comprehensive information about outdoor recreation opportunities in Florida. The Web site would offer information about outdoor recreation areas and link to Web sites maintained by other providers.
4. Recreation agencies should coordinate sharing information for the outdoor recreation inventory to minimize unnecessary duplication of efforts and ensure a single data source that is kept accurate and up-to-date.

Acquiring and Managing Conservation Lands

The most essential element in Florida's outdoor recreation system is land upon which to recreate. Florida is fortunate to have a legacy of successful and well-supported land acquisition programs through which it has assembled an "estate" of public conservation lands exceeding 6.6 million acres. Local governments and federal agencies have contributed tremendously to this effort, bringing an additional 6.2 million acres of conservation lands into public ownership and management. As large as these acreages may seem, they will not be enough to meet the needs of Florida's projected population of nearly 22.5 million in 2020. Through efforts

such as the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*, Florida can help ensure that its residents and visitors have an adequate supply of land available for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

Florida's public land "estate" may be significant, but public access to many areas is inadequate. A perception exists that public conservation lands are "locked up" after they are purchased, and that the public often loses the access that existed before the lands were acquired. While most public land is available for some type of public access, not enough priority has been given to opening land for appropriate recreational use. Often, this requires that basic facilities like parking and restrooms be provided to support public use and prevent damage to resources. Improving public access to public lands is a necessary part of building needed public support for the acquisition of public conservation lands. The following recommendations are intended to further that effort.



*Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park,
Wakulla County*

1. Public land managing agencies should ensure that all lands under their management are open for appropriate public access as soon as possible after acquisition. This should be done in a way that does not compromise the resources of the lands or the missions of the managing agencies.
2. Public land management agencies should review their public access and recreation plans and their existing access facilities to determine where additional public access can be provided without compromising resources or their management missions.
3. Resource management and restoration activities on public lands should be greatly expanded. Most lands in public ownership were degraded to some extent prior to acquisition, some extremely so. Lands that are in a high quality condition often require substantial resource management effort to maintain them in that condition. Activities such as prescribed burning, exotic species removal and hydrological restoration are vital to providing and maintaining the high-quality natural and cultural resources that support resource-based recreation.
4. Wherever possible, local governments should continue acquiring and managing environmentally significant and other conservation lands that do not meet criteria for state purchase. These lands play an indispensable role in the state's overall conservation and recreation land acquisition program, and are vital to meeting many needs for resource-based recreation.

Funding

There is no escaping the fact that meeting the needs of Florida's growing population inevitably requires adequate funding for ac-

quiring park lands and constructing, maintaining and operating park facilities. Many park and recreation agencies are faced with limited or unstable sources of funding to support their various programs. At the federal level, funding sources such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund program have been reduced to near-subsistence levels or discontinued altogether. At the state level, historically stable funding sources such as the Land Acquisition Trust Fund have been capped at previous years' levels, limiting their ability to provide the funds needed to meet the increasing demands of a growing population. Local governments face the challenge of declining real property values and limitations on their ad valorem tax revenues. Weathering the current economic conditions will require creative financing and sound management by all park and recreation agencies. Ultimately, additional funding will be required to maintain current levels of recreational services and meet future needs. The following recommendations should be implemented to improve funding for outdoor recreation.

1. The National Park Service should encourage federal legislation to create a funding mechanism adequate to support a long-term and stable financial assistance program to help serve state and local recreation needs.
2. DEP and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) should continue to provide financial assistance grants to local governments and non-profit organizations to meet the highest needs for acquiring and developing parks, recreation areas, greenways and trails.
3. State and local recreation providers should increase and coordinate efforts to identify sources of public and private grant

funding to meet outdoor recreation programming and park development needs.

4. State and local recreation providers should seek greater use of joint, public-private partnerships to help provide financial support for outdoor recreation programs and activities.
5. All park and recreation agencies should maximize the use of volunteers and citizen-based support organizations to supplement their existing resources and personnel.
6. The Florida Recreation and Park Association, the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy and other organizations should continue to provide technical assistance to local governments and citizen groups for identifying alternative sources of revenue and enacting local land acquisition programs.

for better long-term decision-making about natural and cultural resources and the environment. The following recommendations for state and local agencies are proposed to help ensure success in Florida's efforts to inform and educate the public on environmental concerns.



Ocala National Forest, Marion County

Environmental Education

The magnitude of environmental issues facing Florida today is such that they cannot be resolved without broad-based public understanding and support. These issues and problems present unique opportunities if used as a focus for a sound, well-coordinated environmental education program. Broader and more intensive educational efforts are needed and should be directed toward achieving two basic objectives. First, the public must be impressed with the relationships between the natural and built environments, the impacts of human activities on the environment, and the environmental values of parks and open spaces. A second essential objective is to help the public take greater advantage of the outdoor recreational opportunities available to them and to get more enjoyment from their recreational experiences. In achieving these objectives, prospects can be improved

1. DEP should continue its public awareness and education activities, and its partnership efforts with local schools to inform and educate the public about Florida's environment through the Learning in Florida's Environment (LIFE) program and through interpretive programs provided at managed areas.
2. Public schools in Florida, in partnerships with the Department of Education and public park and recreation agencies, should continue to integrate environmental education for children and adults throughout their curricula to increase awareness of the threats to and benefits of Florida's natural systems.
3. DOF should continue to educate the public on protection of forest resources through its Florida Forest Discovery Center, Future Farmers of America Forestry Contest and Summer Camp, Florida



Anastasia State Park, St. Johns County

Teachers Forestry Tour and related programs.

4. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission should continue to inform and educate the public on Florida's wildlife resources through educational camp programs, educational training for educators of K-12 grade students, outdoor skills and safety programs, and Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative.

Active and Healthy Living

The connection between good health and physical activity is widely recognized, and one of the best avenues to physical activity is through participating in outdoor recreation activities. Florida's public lands and waters provide opportunities for relaxation and solitude, exercise and activity, and challenge and risk. Public park and recreation agen-

cies can help support healthy lifestyles by ensuring access to public lands and waters for people of all ages and abilities through a high quality system of parks, greenways and other natural areas. Recreational resources are vital not only to improving people's lives and promoting active, healthy living, but also to fostering a deeper appreciation for Florida's natural and cultural heritage. The following recommendations should be implemented to promote outdoor recreation as a means to facilitate active and healthy living by the state's citizens.

1. State land managing agencies should coordinate with the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness to increase public awareness of the need for and benefits of healthy and active lifestyles.
2. Public park and recreation agencies should continue efforts to create and promote outdoor recreation activities through-

out the state in cooperation with private interest groups, non-profit organizations and volunteers.

3. Public park and recreation agencies should continue to work with local planning, growth management and greenway and trail programs to improve the ability of Floridians to walk and bicycle to work, school and other daily activities, and to provide public outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. Public recreation providers, schools, universities and community colleges should continue and improve efforts to open their recreation and exercise facilities to members of the public at reasonable times and during reasonable hours.

Tourism

Tourism is vital to Florida and helps fuel the growth of a healthy and competitive state economy. Planning for the state's overall outdoor recreation system must take into account the substantial demand that tourists and seasonal residents place on public outdoor recreation resources and facilities. All public recreation providers and land management agencies should be mindful of the important role they play in Florida's efforts to promote, market and advertise its outdoor recreation opportunities to domestic and international travelers and state residents. The recommendations that follow are intended to support Florida's tourism marketing programs and strengthen their relationships with the state's outdoor recreation system.

1. State land managing agencies should continue and expand their cooperative marketing relationships with VISIT FLORIDA to emphasize nature-based and cultural heritage tourism and to promote visi-

tation to the state's public conservation and recreation lands.

2. All public park and recreation providers and land management agencies should incorporate multilingual, multicultural and diversity considerations in their marketing activities, agency Web sites, on-line brochures and printed interpretive materials.
3. Land management agencies should pursue partnerships with tourism marketing programs in rural communities that are located near under-visited management areas to promote greater exposure of their sites.
4. Public park and recreation providers and land managing agencies should ensure that accurate, up-to-date information on their areas is available at VISIT FLORIDA welcome centers located at the state's major highway borders. These centers are key distribution points for maps and guides for automobile travelers.

Outdoor Recreation Opportunities for All People

Florida's public lands exist for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people. The Americans with Disabilities Act became law in 1990 but there is still much concern today over equality of access to public lands and the recreational opportunities they provide. Compliance with the Act involves much more than simply removing physical barriers to people with disabilities. Among its many other provisions, the Act also requires that all reasonable efforts be made to ensure that facilities, programs and services are accessible. Although architectural design standards have been established and are commonly used to meet the Act's requirements for facility accessibility, far less progress has been made toward eliminating barriers to full participation in recreation programs and ser-



Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park, Franklin County

vices. Many park and recreation agencies are embracing “universal design” concepts to ensure that their facilities, programs and services are accessible to all people, including those with disabilities, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. For example, instead of designing a building entrance to include an accessibility ramp next to a set of stairs (a common accessibility design), universal design uses a gently sloped entry with no stairs. The following recommendations are made to improve accessibility by people of all ages and abilities to the recreation opportunities provided at Florida’s parks and recreation areas.

1. Outdoor recreation providers should develop and implement schedules for identifying and eliminating architectural barriers in existing facilities under their management.
2. Outdoor recreation providers should take measures to ensure that all people, including those with disabilities, receive the

same opportunities to participate in and enjoy the benefits of recreation programs and activities.

3. Outdoor recreation providers should consider adopting principles of universal design in all programs for constructing facilities, providing visitor programs and other activities.
4. Outdoor recreation providers should develop and strengthen partnerships with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and organizations such as the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association to educate themselves and the public, and to provide recreational activities and programs for people of all abilities and ages.

Florida's Waters

One of the clearest messages received at the public workshops is that Florida must do more to preserve opportunities for public recreational access to the state's waters. This begins with protecting Florida's water resources themselves. Maintaining freshwater and saltwater resources in a fishable, swimmable condition involves a complex and science-based system of federal, state and local regulatory and enforcement programs. Each component of this system must ensure that its efforts are maximized toward protecting and improving the quality of Florida's water resources. A particular concern that needs to be addressed is Florida's springs, a unique and highly popular recreational resource. Nutrient pollution from a variety of sources, such as excess fertilizer use, septic systems and stormwater runoff is causing harmful changes in water chemistry that must be addressed immediately if Florida's springs are to remain available for public use and enjoyment.

Most Floridians get their drinking water from groundwater. In some of Florida's most developed areas, groundwater withdrawals combined with persistent drought conditions have resulted in the loss of thousands of acres of wetlands, significant reduction in the surface areas of lakes, and reductions in spring flows. It is essential that Florida conserve water while devising solutions that will meet the needs for drinking water, agriculture, and industrial use, without harming the water-dependent natural systems that support not only outdoor recreation, but the quality of life in general.

As Florida continues to grow, many water bodies that are accessible today will become inaccessible due to development. A combined effort by federal, state and local gov-

ernments is needed to ensure that funding continues to be available to acquire land for public recreational access to waters of the State of Florida while these lands are still available. In many areas, even where water bodies are accessible, they are unusable due to the lack of public facilities. While the regional demand and need estimates in this plan are not capable of identifying local needs, there is an obvious need to fund the development of additional boat ramps, canoe launches, docks, catwalks and piers, as well as support facilities such as parking and restrooms. The following recommendations are made for protecting water resources and improving public access to Florida's public waters.

1. All levels of government, working with the private sector, should identify alternative means of meeting public demand for water through developing alternative water supplies such as seawater, brackish surface and groundwater, storm water and reclaimed wastewater.
2. Clean-up and rehabilitation efforts for specific water bodies, such as Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers, the Everglades and the waters surrounding the Florida Keys, should be continued and strengthened.
3. DEP should continue to provide funding to support construction of public facilities in springs, monitor spring water quality and oversee other restoration activities to help ensure that springs remain available for public use.
4. DCA should continue to provide planning assistance to local governments in adopting effective land development regulations, such as the Model Land Development Code, for protecting Florida's springs.



Ichetucknee Springs State Park, Columbia County

5. Funding should continue to be made available through the *Florida Forever* program to acquire land for increased water access, preservation of working waterfronts, environmental restoration, and water resource protection and supply.
6. Reduce the amount of nutrient pollution that enters Florida's waters through programs that teach the public about where nutrients come from and what they can do to help.
7. Local governments should maximize the use of local comprehensive planning processes to increase public access to Florida's waters by preserving recreational and commercial working waterfronts and identifying sites for public and private recreation.
8. Public recreation providers should identify water areas under their jurisdictions where inadequate recreational access exists or where existing water access can be improved, and give priority to making the needed improvements.

Greenways and Trails

Florida has pursued a systematic approach to meeting trail-based recreation needs and creating connections between public lands since 1979. The Florida Greenways and Trails System, composed of 785,000 acres



Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail

of public lands and waterways and 1,200 miles of linear trails, is Florida's primary means for designating trails and greenways for appropriate management and public use. Strong partnerships between trail providers and advocacy organizations have been a key element in the success of the system. Trails and greenways have become fundamental components of Florida's outdoor recreation and transportation systems. In the future, they will play an even more important role in determining urban design and quality of life in Florida's communities.

Opportunities to participate in some types of trail activities are being lost as more of the state's private lands are being committed to urban development. Focused attention will be needed to provide adequate land and facilities for such activities and to avoid conflicts with other users. Freshwater and saltwater paddling trails, the first trails to be systematically designated and managed in Florida, would benefit from a more coordinated approach to management. The following

recommendations are made for maintaining and expanding the statewide greenways and trails system for recreation, conservation and alternative transportation in cooperation with land management agencies, local communities and trail support groups.

1. DEP should expand the statewide greenways and trails system by acquiring corridors with regional and statewide significance, utilizing funds allocated from *Florida Forever*.
2. DEP should expand the designation of trails and greenways as components of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, particularly in parts of the state that are currently under-represented in the system.
3. DEP should complete its update of trail opportunity maps to identify potential locations for new trails and greenways and guide the allocation of acquisition funds for trails and greenways.
4. DEP should continue to provide, through the Office of Greenways and Trails, tech-

- nical assistance to local communities with emphasis on identifying opportunities for cross-jurisdictional and regional trail connectivity.
5. DEP should maintain and strengthen its working relationships with trail-related advocacy and support organizations.
 6. DEP, working with DOF, should expand opportunities for motorized off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in Florida through effective administration of Recreational Trail Program grants and by building strong relationships with the OHV community.
 7. DEP, working with the various land management agencies, should determine methods for increasing coordination in managing freshwater and saltwater paddling trails.
 8. All public land management agencies, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Florida Trail Association, should work toward completing the Florida National Scenic Trail and providing new hiking opportunities in the state.

9. The Department of Transportation should continue to provide assistance to local communities and trail user groups in providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities for public recreation and improving transportation access in urban areas.

Relative Need Priorities Index

If implementation capabilities were great enough, all needs could be approached simultaneously and priority would be largely immaterial. Since this is not the case, a priority system is the only logical solution. To aid all providers of public outdoor recreation in determining where their land acquisition and development efforts should be directed, the Division of Recreation and Parks has devised a set of “relative need indices,” which prioritize (from highest to lowest relative need) both the resource-based and user-oriented outdoor recreation activities in this plan. For the purposes of this plan, relative need is defined as the ranked, proportional relationship among all outdoor recrea-



*Withlacoochee Bay Trail,
Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway*

tion needs for each basic type of activity. The relative need indices compare the needs from any one activity in any one region, with the needs for all activities in all regions, and establish the priority ranking among them. Separate indices were computed for 2010, 2015 and 2020 projected needs. For a detailed description of the relative need methodology, refer to Appendix K.

Table 7.1 displays the 2010 relative need priorities for all levels of outdoor recreation supply. Appendix K contains the relative need indices for projected 2015 and 2020 needs. While no single supplier of outdoor recreation can be expected to meet the total public recreation demand, these indices provide each supplier a general guide as to the recreational activity (and its region) requiring the most immediate attention.

The relative need indices can make an important contribution in helping all agencies to efficiently allocate their funding resources. Still, they must be recognized as only one of several basic criteria to consider in committing these resources. While far from providing precise measurements of outdoor recreation need, the relative need indices constitute a general guide which can be readily adjusted whenever there is significant change in either the demand for or supply of outdoor recreation resources or facilities. The biennial update of the supply inventory and the periodic surveys of outdoor recreation participation will provide the necessary data to compute revised indices and to assess progress made toward meeting present and projected outdoor recreation needs. Consequently, priorities for acquisition and development of resource and facilities can be re-established accordingly.

Table 7.1
2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
1	Picnicking	6	8270	36	Soccer or Rugby	6	2126
2	RV/Trailer Camping	6	5540	37	Saltwater Beach Activities	4	2098
3	Picnicking	9	5257	38	Horseback Riding	6	2042
4	Picnicking	8	4899	39	Baseball or Softball	1	1988
5	Saltwater Beach Activities	1	4734	40	Saltwater Beach Activities	2	1986
6	RV/Trailer Camping	9	4389	41	Saltwater Beach Activities	8	1960
7	Football	6	4318	42	Picnicking	1	1903
8	RV/Trailer Camping	8	4081	43	Outdoor Tennis	11	1852
9	Baseball or Softball	6	4007	44	Golf	6	1844
10	RV/Trailer Camping	7	3772	45	Football	5	1818
11	Football	10	3523	46	RV/Trailer Camping	5	1789
12	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11	3470	47	Picnicking	10	1768
13	Picnicking	11	3429	48	Nature Study	2	1759
14	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6	3150	49	Nature Study	5	1738
15	Baseball or Softball	8	3036	50	Baseball or Softball	5	1701
16	Football	11	3002	51	Outdoor Tennis	10	1687
17	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	4	2942	52	Golf	11	1658
18	Picnicking	7	2892	53	Football	9	1644
19	Saltwater Beach Activities	9	2864	54	Baseball or Softball	7	1642
20	Golf	10	2806	55	Football	1	1640
21	Baseball or Softball	4	2799	56	Nature Study	9	1636
22	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	9	2722	57	Baseball or Softball	9	1632
23	Football	8	2702	58	Saltwater Beach Activities	10	1623
24	Baseball or Softball	10	2651	59	Outdoor Basketball	11	1591
25	Baseball or Softball	11	2613	60	Picnicking	4	1581
26	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	8	2579	61	Golf	8	1581
27	Nature Study	6	2563	62	Outdoor Basketball	10	1553
28	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	6	2560	63	Outdoor Tennis	6	1553
29	Outdoor Basketball	6	2496	64	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	6	1519
30	Picnicking	5	2464	65	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	6	1517
31	Saltwater Beach Activities	11	2438	66	Football	3	1444
32	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10	2224	67	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	1437
33	Saltwater Beach Activities	6	2194	68	Outdoor Basketball	8	1423
34	Football	4	2169	69	RV/Trailer Camping	11	1396
35	Golf	9	2167	70	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2	1387

Table 7.1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
71	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	4	1353	106	Soccer or Rugby	10	844
72	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7	1312	107	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	5	842
73	Nature Study	11	1307	108	Freshwater Beach Activities	8	839
74	Outdoor Tennis	8	1293	109	Outdoor Basketball	9	829
75	Soccer or Rugby	11	1291	110	Baseball or Softball	3	828
76	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	1280	111	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	5	826
77	Outdoor Basketball	4	1238	112	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	816
78	Picnicking	3	1185	113	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	11	813
79	Outdoor Tennis	9	1167	114	Horseback Riding	4	794
80	Nature Study	4	1163	115	Golf	1	790
81	Nature Study	3	1152	116	Outdoor Shuffleboard	6	779
82	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	5	1145	117	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	6	774
83	Nature Study	7	1144	118	Soccer or Rugby	9	772
84	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1	1133	119	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	11	772
85	Soccer or Rugby	8	1109	120	RV/Trailer Camping	1	768
86	Nature Study	8	1095	121	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	767
87	Golf	4	1077	122	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1	764
88	RV/Trailer Camping	10	1045	123	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	11	763
89	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	7	1043	124	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	4	760
90	Outdoor Basketball	5	1038	125	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	2	757
91	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	1033	126	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	8	752
92	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	991	127	Tent Camping	6	746
93	Soccer or Rugby	5	972	128	Outdoor Tennis	4	746
94	Soccer or Rugby	4	953	129	Horseback Riding	3	733
95	Baseball or Softball	2	950	130	RV/Trailer Camping	4	732
96	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	9	948	131	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	4	731
97	Horseback Riding	5	947	132	Horseback Riding	8	722
98	Picnicking	2	933	133	Nature Study	10	708
99	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	933	134	Outdoor Basketball	3	700
100	Soccer or Rugby	3	924	135	Soccer or Rugby	1	696
101	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5	913	136	Horseback Riding	7	693
102	Football	7	894	137	Football	2	692
103	Hunting	9	871	138	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	9	688
104	Golf	7	865	139	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	6	684
105	Outdoor Shuffleboard	8	849	140	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	8	677

Table 7.1 (continued)
2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
141	Outdoor Basketball	7	673	176	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2	430
142	Golf	5	664	177	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3	429
143	RV/Trailer Camping	3	663	178	Hiking	6	422
144	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	9	660	179	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	2	420
145	Hunting	2	650	180	Soccer or Rugby	2	418
146	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1	641	181	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	10	411
147	Tent Camping	5	636	182	Hunting	1	410
148	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	628	183	Outdoor Tennis	7	400
149	Nature Study	1	624	184	Freshwater Beach Activities	6	399
150	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	9	619	185	Hunting	6	390
151	Hunting	5	601	186	Freshwater Beach Activities	10	388
152	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	3	600	187	Hiking	2	373
153	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	7	584	188	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	11	368
154	Horseback Riding	10	580	189	Outdoor Basketball	2	367
155	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	3	573	190	Outdoor Shuffleboard	11	366
156	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1	534	191	Hiking	4	357
157	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	9	527	192	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	5	357
158	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	3	525	193	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8	346
159	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	6	517	194	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	8	332
160	Outdoor Tennis	1	516	195	Outdoor Shuffleboard	10	327
161	Outdoor Basketball	1	509	196	Hunting	11	325
162	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	10	509	197	Hiking	3	318
163	Hiking	5	508	198	Hunting	4	312
164	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	11	506	199	Hiking	7	308
165	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	10	488	200	RV/Trailer Camping	2	302
166	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	7	488	201	Outdoor Tennis	5	301
167	Outdoor Shuffleboard	7	485	202	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	4	300
168	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	482	203	Hiking	10	293
169	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	10	469	204	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	10	290
170	Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	469	205	Horseback Riding	11	280
171	Horseback Riding	9	465	206	Hunting	10	279
172	Soccer or Rugby	7	453	207	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	266
173	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	443	208	Hiking	8	260
174	Hiking	9	437	209	Tent Camping	1	260
175	Horseback Riding	2	432	210	Tent Camping	9	251

Table 7.1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
211	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	248	246	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	124
212	Hiking	11	246	247	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	5	118
213	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	10	237	248	Tent Camping	10	117
214	Horseback Riding	1	237	249	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	7	115
215	Hunting	3	236	250	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	2	110
216	Tent Camping	3	225	251	Freshwater Beach Activities	9	91
217	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	4	225	252	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	91
218	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	8	224	253	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	3	91
219	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1	222	254	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	3	91
220	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	2	219	255	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	1	88
221	Hiking	1	212	256	Freshwater Beach Activities	11	85
222	Tent Camping	4	210	257	Freshwater Beach Activities	1	84
223	Tent Camping	2	208	258	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	80
224	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	204	259	Outdoor Shuffleboard	4	78
225	Outdoor Tennis	2	204	260	Outdoor Shuffleboard	1	77
226	Outdoor Shuffleboard	5	201	261	Freshwater Beach Activities	5	72
227	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	7	192	262	Freshwater Beach Activities	4	59
228	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	5	188	263	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	1	58
229	Golf	2	185	264	Freshwater Beach Activities	2	48
230	Outdoor Tennis	3	183	265	Freshwater Beach Activities	3	45
231	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	3	179	266	Hunting	7	40
232	Golf	3	168	267	Outdoor Shuffleboard	3	37
233	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	7	164	268	Hunting	8	36
234	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	155	269	Saltwater Beach Activities	5	18
235	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	150	270	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	17
236	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	9	149	271	Outdoor Shuffleboard	2	9
237	Tent Camping	8	135	272	Saltwater Beach Activities	3	8
238	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	135				
239	Freshwater Beach Activities	7	134				
240	Tent Camping	7	134				
241	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	11	132				
242	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4	128				
243	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	8	128				
244	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	2	127				
245	Tent Camping	11	126				

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