

# **WEXFORD COUNTY RECREATION PLAN**

**2013-2017**



Prepared By the Wexford County Planning Commission

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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### **Wexford County Planning Commission**

- Paul Osborne – Chairperson
- Beverly Monroe – Vice Chairperson
- Gideon Mitchell
- Donald David Middaugh
- Michael Mix
- David Stoutenburg
- Corey Wiggins

### **Wexford County Board of Commissioners**

- Les Housler – Chairperson: District 2
- Gideon Mitchell – Vice Chairperson: District 5
- Robert Colvin: District 1
- Robert Hilty: District 3
- Mark Howie: District 4
- Alan Devereaux: District 6
- Gary Taylor: District 7
- John Fuscone: District 8
- Bill Goodwill: District 9

### **Wexford County Staff**

- Michael Green, Zoning Administrator
- Sarah Merz, GIS Specialist
- Robert Scarbrough, Building Official

## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2013 Wexford County Recreation Plan Update has been prepared for use as a guide for future decision making in the area of recreational facilities and programs.

The Plan presents an evaluation of Wexford County's recreation opportunities and needs. It also considers the existing facilities in and around the county, the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities and the means for providing those facilities over the upcoming five-year period.

This plan is also intended to enable the county to apply for Federal and State grant programs which will assist in the funding of future projects. Among the state programs are:

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (land acquisition);
- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (acquisition and facility development);
- Michigan Quality of Life Recreation Bond Program (improvements, reuse of industrial sites for recreational use)

Eligibility for grants under the 2013 Community Recreation Plan will be in effect for five years. The Plan will be reviewed and updated, as necessary, every year. This will help assure that the capital improvement schedule reflects the actual budget and grant funding schedule for each participating community.

## **COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION**

Wexford County is located in Michigan's northwestern lower peninsula, surrounded by Manistee, Grand Traverse, Osceola and Missaukee Counties. Appendix A shows the local and regional placement of the county.

The natural features of Wexford County and the northern Michigan area provide a number of recreational opportunities, including areas for hunting, fishing, skiing and hiking. The natural resources of the area, in combination with the overall quality of life, have helped to create a demand for development in the county which necessitates careful planning in all aspects, including recreation.

## **POPULATION**

Population trends in Michigan are to some extent mirrored in Wexford County. In the past ten years the United States' population grew 13.2%, Michigan's population grew 6.9%, and Wexford County grew at a rate of 15.6%. In the 1970-1980 decade Michigan's population has grown by three percent. From 1980-1990 Michigan grew only 0.4 percent. Growth from migration (people moving into, or out of, Michigan from, or to, other states has been negative. With the exception of the early 1990's more people have moved out of Michigan than have moved into Michigan.

But during this same time period Michigan has seen a 30 percent increase in urbanized land. Michigan is projected to grow by 1.1 million people from 2000 to 2020. Those next 1.1 million people will use as much land as the first 9.2 million people have urbanized. This is because there are fewer people per household, and the size of a parcel for a household has increased. There are a number of reasons for this:

- The percentage of married households has dramatically dropped due, mainly, to divorce. In 1972 the households with married couples was 72 percent. In 1990 that dropped to 55 percent. When a couple gets a divorce, a family which used to occupy one house now occupies two houses. The number of houses increases, while the number of people does not.
- The average size of families continues to decrease. Couples with children have fewer children than before.
- There are fewer households with children. Young (20 to 30 year olds) are getting married later in life, and are having children later, or are not having children.
- Senior Citizens are living longer and are healthier, thus able to live independently in a home for longer periods.

The result in Michigan is 30 percent more houses have been constructed to accommodate a three percent population growth. This means more homes, more infrastructure and services (roads, sewers, police, etc.) but not more people to pay the additional taxes for the infrastructure and services. Thus service suffers, is reduced, or taxes go up.

In this same period some parts of Michigan have grown (northwest Michigan, Grand Rapids area, northern Detroit suburbs area). This growth came at the expense of other parts of the state which lost population (western Upper Peninsula, the thumb area, Detroit, and other inner cities). Wexford County has been in a part of the state which has seen moderate

population growth. In addition to construction of housing to accommodate that growth, Wexford County also sees construction of seasonal, or second, homes. Michigan has one of the highest rates of seasonal home ownership of all the states in the nation.

Historic and 2010 Census data for Wexford County is presented here.

**2010 Census Data Advance Final Counts**

Political Subdivision	1950 Pop.	1960 Pop.	1970 Pop.	1980 Pop.	1990 Pop.	2000 Pop.	2010 Pop.	% Pop. Change 2000-2010
Wexford County (83)	18,628	18,475	19,717	25,102	26,367	30,484	32,735	7.4%
Antioch Twp.	448	373	395	618	671	810	815	0.6%
Boon Twp.	475	410	457	500	562	670	687	2.5%
Harrietta Village	152	119	132	139	157	169	143	-15.3%
Cadillac City	10,425	10,112	9,990	10,199	10,104	10,000	10,355	3.6%
Cedar Creek Twp.	455	534	692	1,010	1,013	1,489	1,757	18.0%
Cherry Grove Twp.	583	695	835	1,517	1,763	2,328	2,377	2.1%
Clam Lake Twp.	792	1,017	1,084	1,658	1,739	2,238	2,467	10.23%
Colfax Twp.	459	398	374	602	556	763	840	10.09%
Greenwood Twp	205	162	155	297	372	542	587	8.30%
Buckley Village	194	247	244	357	402	550	697	26.73%
Hanover Twp.	323	351	373	665	826	1,200	1,560	30.00%
Haring Charter Twp.	935	1,059	1,387	2,523	2,501	2,962	3,173	7.12%
Henderson Twp.	99	107	120	140	169	176	163	-7.39%
Liberty Twp.	320	272	334	542	641	800	861	7.63%
Manton City	1,085	1,050	1,107	1,212	1,161	1,221	1,287	5.41%
Selma Twp.	542	598	749	1,289	1,607	1,915	2,093	9.29%
Slagle Twp.	254	202	286	406	470	569	503	11.60%
South Branch Twp	173	187	210	276	306	330	383	16.06%
Springville Twp.	673	636	799	1,191	1,339	1,673	1,755	4.90%
Mesick Village	359	304	376	374	406	447	394	-11.86%
Wexford Twp.	382	312	370	457	567	798	1,072	40.74%

Village data is included in township data. (Source: 2010 U.S. Census)

Most of the new people moving to Wexford County from urban areas are from southern Michigan cities.<sup>1</sup> This trend is further documented in the *Michigan Trend Future* reports as part of an urban to rural movement of people rather than a state population growth.

<sup>1</sup>This discussion on population is based on several sources of information: A special demographic analysis, Migration to Non-metropolitan Areas done by the Bureau of the Census; Wexford County Building Department data for the years 1978-1980, Jan. 2, 1981; 1980 and 1990 U.S. Bureau of the Census Advance Final Counts for Wexford County; Michigan Employment Security Commission labor force estimates.



Reasons for moving to rural areas fall into three main categories: employment, retirement, or getting away from the city. No one reason totally explains why people move to rural or small town areas. Other reasons include desire to be closer to one's family, as a result of marriage or marital dissolution, seeking larger housing or less expensive housing, leaving school or the armed forces or a desire for a change of climate. Most of these reasons are secondary, or relatively few people move based on them. The major reasons for moving to Wexford County seems to be employment, retirement or escaping from large cities.

The Bureau of Census estimates 40 to 50 percent of people/families moving to non-metro areas do so for job related reasons. The percentage is higher for people moving to rural counties which are not next to metropolitan counties, such as Wexford. Further, most of the people moving to Wexford County had a job in the city which they left. The move to Wexford County was in response to a job offer.

Demographers feel that traditional rural growth, if occurring at all, has been due to retirement and recreational opportunities. This seems to have been the case for Wexford County (See seasonal population tables). However, in the past (1970-1990) the national trend for rural areas to lose population and urban areas to grow has reversed. Cities now lose people and rural areas are gaining. This is definitely true in Michigan. Northwest Michigan, in particular, has experienced population growth. Wexford County has shared in that growth from 1970-1980. The national recession in the early 1980s slowed that growth for Wexford County. From 1987 to 2010, strong population growth occurred again in Wexford County, despite the recent recession that heavily affected Michigan and led to a loss of its population from 2000 to 2010.

The traditional increase in retirees and recreation-oriented residents contributes to an increase in available jobs.

Data tends to verify this experience in Wexford County. The increased numbers of jobs in Wexford County is in all economic sectors. Job growth seems to be in sectors of the economy which are service, retail, tourist, real estate, and financial oriented. The Wexford-Missaukee Labor Market Area had the second largest percentage (13.2%) of new job growth compared to surrounding counties<sup>2</sup> during 1985-1995.

Over the past ten years the county has had an increase in the number of people employed. An additional 4,883 people work in Wexford County in 1999 than did in 1990, a 31% percent increase.

One can generalize, then, people moving to Wexford County have come for employment related reasons.

The other major reason for moving to rural areas is a person's desire to get away from the city. It is important to note, the reason is expressed as a desire to get away from a city; NOT a desire to live in a rural setting.

Also contributing to Wexford's population growth are retirees. As indicated earlier, this has

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<sup>2</sup>Benzie (7.6%), Grand Traverse (10.5%), Lake, Mason (9.3%) and Manistee (16.2%) Counties.

been the traditional group of immigrants contributing to Wexford County's population. Traditionally, retired individuals have tended to move into resort areas, particularly in areas on or near inland lakes, of the county. A typical history of resort areas in Wexford County starts with the construction of cottages or summer homes. After summer residents' families grow, and the adults retire, the summer homes become a retirement home with year-round occupancy and participation in local affairs.

Future growth in Wexford County is expected to continue. Experience has shown us that the 1974-75 oil embargo did not slow down the movement of population from urban to rural areas. Higher gasoline costs in recent years have also failed to slow down the population shift according to Michigan Department of Management and Budget demographers. In fact, the shift from urban to rural increased as the 1970's drew to a close. However, a general economic decline, impacting more than just the auto industry and energy costs, has had an impact on Wexford County's population, and slowed that growth in the early 1980's and again between 2008-10.

**Population Totals**

The United States census is done once every 10 years, on April 1 of years ending in zero (0). That is usually the only time an actual count of people is done. For more recent population data estimates are prepared by various agencies. Those estimates are presented here.

The 2010 U.S. Census shows the population of Wexford County grew by 2,281, or 7.4%, from 2000 to 2010. It is important to note that 93% of the population growth between 1970 and 2010 occurred in the unincorporated areas of Wexford County.

**Census Population by County, Township, City, Village 1970-2010**

	Population 1970 Census	Populatio n 1980 Census	Populatio n 1990 Census	Populatio n 2000 Census	Populatio n 2010 Census	Change 1970- 80	Change 1980- 90	Change 1990- 2000	Change 2000- 10	% Change 1970-80	% Change 1980-90	% Change 1990-00	% Change 2000-10
WEXFORD COUNTY	19,717	25,102	26,360	30,484	32,765	5,385	1,258	4,124	2,281	27.3%	5.0%	15.6%	7.4%
Antioch Township	395	618	671	810	815	223	53	139	5	56.5%	8.6%	20.7%	0.6%
Boon Township	457	500	562	670	687	43	62	108	17	9.4%	12.4%	19.2%	2.5%
Cadillac city	9,990	10,199	10,104	10,000	10,308	209	-95	-104	308	2.1%	-0.9%	-1.0%	3.1%
Cedar Creek Township	692	1,010	1,013	1,489	1,661	318	3	476	172	46.0%	0.3%	47.0%	11.6%
Cherry Grove Township	835	1,517	1,763	2,328	2,410	682	246	565	82	81.7%	16.2%	32.0%	3.5%
Clam Lake Township	1,084	1,658	1,739	2,238	2,322	574	81	499	84	53.0%	4.9%	28.7%	3.8%
Colfax Township	374	602	556	763	832	228	-46	207	69	61.0%	-7.6%	37.2%	9.0%
Greenwood Township	155	297	372	542	600	142	75	170	58	91.6%	25.3%	45.7%	8.3%
Hanover Township	373	665	826	1,200	1,270	292	161	374	70	78.3%	24.2%	45.3%	5.8%
Haring Township	1,387	2,523	2,501	2,962	3,074	1,136	-22	461	112	81.9%	-0.9%	18.4%	3.7%
Henderson Township	120	140	162	176	163	20	22	14	53	16.7%	15.7%	8.6%	-7.4%

**WEXFORD COUNTY RECREATION PLAN 2013-2017**

	Population 1970 Census	Populatio n 1980 Census	Populatio n 1990 Census	Populatio n 2000 Census	Populatio n 2010 Census	Change 1970- 80	Change 1980- 90	Change 1990- 2000	Change 2000- 10	% Change 1970-80	% Change 1980-90	% Change 1990-00	% Change 2000-10
Liberty Township	334	542	641	800	878	208	99	159	78	62.3%	18.3%	24.8%	9.8%
Manton city	1,107	1,212	1,161	1,221	1,202	105	-51	60	-19	9.5%	-4.2%	5.2%	-1.5%
Selma Township	749	1,289	1,607	1,915	2,002	540	318	308	87	72.1%	24.7%	19.2%	4.5%
Slagle Township	286	406	470	569	626	120	64	99	57	42.0%	15.8%	21.1%	10.0%
South Branch Township	210	276	306	330	360	66	30	24	30	31.4%	10.9%	7.8%	9.1%
Springville Township	799	1,191	1,339	1,673	1,749	392	148	334	76	49.1%	12.4%	24.9%	4.5%
Wexford Township	370	457	567	798	880	87	110	231	82	23.5%	24.1%	40.7%	10.3%
Villages:													
--- Buckley	244	357	402	550	697	113	45	148	147	46.3%	12.6%	36.8%	26.7%
--- Harrietta	132	139	157	169	143	7	18	12	-26	5.3%	12.9%	7.6%	-15.4%
--- Mesick	376	374	406	447	394	-2	32	41	-53	-0.5%	8.6%	10.1%	-11.9%
<b>NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>													
Antrim County	12,612	16,194	18,185	23,110	23,580	3,582	1,991	4,925	470	28.4%	12.3%	27.1%	2.0%
Benzie County	8,593	11,205	12,200	15,998	17,525	2,612	995	3,798	1,527	30.4%	8.9%	31.1%	9.5%
Charlevoix County	16,541	19,907	21,468	26,090	25,949	3,366	1,561	4,622	-141	20.3%	7.8%	21.5%	-0.5%
Emmet County	18,331	22,992	25,040	31,437	32,694	4,661	2,048	6,397	1,257	25.4%	8.9%	25.5%	4.0%
Grand Traverse County	39,175	54,899	64,273	77,654	86,986	15,724	9,374	13,381	9,332	40.1%	17.1%	20.8%	12.0%
Kalkaska County	5,272	10,952	13,497	16,571	17,153	5,680	2,545	3,074	582	107.7%	23.2%	22.8%	3.5%
Leelanau County	10,872	14,007	16,527	21,119	21,708	3,135	2,520	4,592	589	28.8%	18.0%	27.8%	2.8%
Manistee County	20,094	23,019	21,265	24,527	24,733	2,925	-1,754	3,262	206	14.6%	-7.6%	15.3%	0.8%
Missaukee County	7,126	10,009	12,147	14,478	14,849	2,883	2,138	2,331	371	40.5%	21.4%	19.2%	2.6%
Wexford County	19,717	25,102	26,360	30,484	32,735	5,385	1,258	4,124	2,251	27.3%	5.0%	15.6%	7.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158,333</b>	<b>208,286</b>	<b>230,962</b>	<b>281,468</b>	<b>298,796</b>	<b>49,953</b>	<b>22,676</b>	<b>50,506</b>	<b>17,328</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>

**Population Density and Housing**

County/ County Divi- sion/ Place	Population			Housing Units			Area measurements in sq. miles		Average per sq. mile of land	
	2010	2000	1990	2010	2000	1990	Total area	Land Area	Population Density	Housing Unit Density
Wexford County	32,735	30,484	26,360	16,736	14,872	12,862	575.47	565.00	57.9	29.6
Antioch town- ship	815	810	671	462	434	353	35.26	35.22	23.1	13.1
Mesick village (part)	-	(X)	(X)	-	(X)	(X)	0.01	0.01	-	-
Boon township	687	670	562	387	342	286	36.01	36.01	19.1	10.7
Boon CDP	167	(X)	(X)	77	(X)	(X)	1.76	1.76	94.9	43.8
Harrietta village (part)	130	147	119	83	76	66	0.47	0.47	276.6	176.6
Cadillac city	10,355	10,000	10,104	4,927	4,466	4,299	9.03	7.16	1,446.2	688.1
Cedar Creek township	1,757	1,489	1,013	748	611	423	34.14	34.12	51.5	21.9
Cherry Grove township	2,377	2,328	1,763	1,303	1,198	918	36.21	33.37	71.2	39.0
Wedgewood CDP	237	(X)	(X)	100	(X)	(X)	0.65	0.62	382.3	161.3
Clam Lake township	2,467	2,238	1,739	1,096	929	748	30.85	30.71	80.3	35.7
Colfax township	840	763	556	461	411	323	35.40	35.26	23.8	13.1
Greenwood township	587	542	372	352	346	258	35.37	35.36	16.6	10.0
Hanover town- ship	1,560	1,200	826	804	639	511	36.15	35.99	43.3	22.3
Buckley village	697	550	402	300	212	173	1.84	1.78	391.6	168.5
Haring charter township	3,173	2,962	2,501	1,389	1,149	912	32.78	32.36	98.1	42.9
Haring CDP	328	(X)	(X)	140	(X)	(X)	2.23	2.23	147.1	62.8
Henderson township	163	176	162	125	111	107	36.22	36.21	4.5	3.5
Liberty township	861	800	641	406	395	319	36.53	36.51	23.6	11.1
Manton city	1,287	1,221	1,161	577	541	522	1.61	1.56	825.0	369.9
Selma township	2,093	1,915	1,607	1,227	1,086	929	35.99	34.31	61.0	35.8
Slagle township	503	569	470	423	391	375	35.79	35.79	14.1	11.8
Caberfae CDP (part)	13	(X)	(X)	32	(X)	(X)	0.12	0.12	108.3	266.7
Harrietta village (part)	13	22	38	20	17	28	0.46	0.46	28.3	43.5
South Branch township	383	330	306	455	429	368	36.05	36.03	10.6	12.6
Caberfae CDP (part)	51	(X)	(X)	94	(X)	(X)	0.23	0.23	221.7	408.7
Springville township	1,755	1,673	1,339	1,091	1,015	929	35.53	32.50	54.0	33.6
Mesick village (part)	394	447	406	190	185	180	1.29	1.29	305.4	147.3
Wexford town- ship	1,072	798	567	503	379	292	36.54	36.54	29.3	13.8

(X) Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1

**Impact of Growth**

Using the above population projections certain predictions can be made concerning the land use demands necessary to accommodate the anticipated growth. These predictions are based on a planners "Rule of thumb" developed by Michigan State University.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Moffat, Geoffrey V. and Robert B. Hotaling; *Michigan Townships Planning and Zoning Handbook*; Institute for Community Development, Lifelong Education Programs, Michigan State University; 1980; page 60.

<b>"Rule of Thumb" Impact of Population Growth on Development</b>			
Year	2010	2020	2030
Projected Population	35,844	40,677	46,385
Low Range	33,427	36,362	39,285
High Range	40,128	48,982	60,659
Will Have:			
Estimated New Population	5,360	10,193	15,901
Low Range: new population	2,943	5,878	8,801
High Range: new population	9,644	18,498	30,175
Estimated New Families	1,340	2,548	3,975
Low Range: new families	677	1,352	2,024
High Range: new families	2,604	4,994	8,147
Estimated New Preschoolers	482	917	1,431
Low Range: new preschoolers	235	470	704
High Range: new preschoolers	964	1,850	3,018
Estimated K-12 school children	1,447	2,752	4,293
Low Range: K-12 children	677	1,352	2,024
High Range: K-12 children	2,990	5,734	9,354
Estimated new adults	3,430	6,524	10,177
Low Range: adults	1,736	3,468	5,193
High range: adults	6,654	12,764	20,821
Will need:			
Acres of residential land	402.0	764.5	1,192.6
Low Range: acres of residential	176.6	352.7	528.1
High Range: acres of residential	868.0	1,664.8	2,715.8
New Miles of streets/roads	11.8	22.4	34.9
Low Range: miles new road	5.5	11.1	16.5
High Range: miles new road	24.2	46.4	75.6
New Public lands	107.2	203.9	318.0
Low Range: new public lands	58.9	117.6	176.0
High Range: new public lands	192.9	370.0	603.5

<b>"Rule of Thumb" Impact of Population Growth on Development</b>				
Year	2010	2020	2030	
New Service Establishment Acres	16.1	30.6	47.7	
Low Range: Service est. acres	8.8	17.6	26.4	
High Range: Service est. acres	28.9	55.5	90.5	
New Retail Businesses Acres	10.7	20.4	31.8	
Low Range: Retail Business acres	5.9	11.8	17.6	
High Range: Retail Business acres	19.3	37.0	60.4	

Wexford County also experiences a major influence from seasonal residents. There is an estimated annual average 27% additional people (34,846 in 1990; 37,998 in 2000 total annual average people in the county) in Wexford County. In summer this can peak (at full capacity) at an additional 81% (49,617 in 1990, 52,769 in 2000). The calculations to estimate seasonal population is presented on page 11. These projections are crude. Wexford County is a part of the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (a regional planning and development district). The other counties, realizing the importance of seasonal population, jointly contracted to do a detailed analysis of seasonal population broken down by county and by month.

Using the above population projections and factoring in seasonal populations the predictions can be modified concerning the land use demands necessary to accommodate the anticipated growth with seasonal and tourist demands. These predictions are also based on the planners "Rule of thumb" developed by Michigan State University.<sup>4</sup> Based on this the following can be estimated:

<b>"Rule of Thumb" Impact Inc. Seasonal Population Growth on Development</b>				
Year	2010	2020	2030	
Projected Perm. & seasonal Population	45,522	51,660	58,909	
Low Range	42,452	46,180	49,892	
High Range	50,963	62,207	77,037	
Will Have:				
Estimated New Population	6,807	12,945	20,194	
Low Range: new population	3,738	7,465	11,177	
High Range: new population	12,248	23,492	38,322	
Estimated New Families	1,702	3,236	5,049	

<sup>4</sup>Moffat, Geoffrey V.; *Michigan Townships Planning and Zoning Handbook*; Institute for Community Development, Lifelong Education Programs, Michigan State University; 1980; page 60.

<b>"Rule of Thumb" Impact Inc. Seasonal Population Growth on Development</b>			
Year	2010	2020	2030
Low Range: new families	860	1,717	2,571
High Range: new families	3,307	6,343	10,347
Estimated new adults	4,357	8,285	12,924
Low Range: adults	2,205	4,404	6,595
High range: adults	8,451	16,210	26,442
Will need:			
Acres of residential land	510.0	970.9	1,514.6
Low Range: acres of residential	224.3	447.9	670.6
High Range: acres of residential	1,102.3	2,114.3	3,449.0
New Miles of streets/roads	14.9	28.4	44.3
Low Range: miles new road	7.0	14.0	21.0
High Range: miles new road	30.7	58.9	96.1
New Public lands	136.1	258.9	403.9
Low Range: new public lands	74.8	149.3	223.5
High Range: new public lands	245.0	469.8	766.4
New Service Establishment Acres	20.4	38.8	60.6
Low Range: Service est. acres	11.2	22.4	33.5
High Range: Service est. acres	36.7	70.5	115.0
New Retail Businesses Acres	13.6	25.9	40.4
Low Range: Retail Business acres	7.5	14.9	22.4
High Range: Retail Business acres	24.5	47.0	76.6

A county plan that provides current vacant land in quantity that is more than the above acreage will adequately provide for anticipated economic growth. Given that the Cadillac area is a regional economic hub, providing twice the vacant land for the above types of development will accommodate the anticipated growth.

## **INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT**

Cadillac dominates Wexford County for location of industrial and “economic base” jobs: 19.7% of the county tax base is from industrial property (12.5% commercial); three out of five industrial parks are in Cadillac; all of the 10 largest employers in the county are in Cadillac; eight of the ten largest taxpayers in the county are manufacturers.

The Cadillac urban area is the dominant location for employment. The remainder of Wexford County is a bedroom community to Cadillac or Traverse City. Reported commuting times also support Cadillac’s economic dominance in the county and that the rest of the county are bedroom communities.

Wexford area has seen a strong retail and service growth – reflecting both a nation-wide trend and Cadillac’s becoming a regional retail-service center.

Family income for the county at \$51,542 (average 1999) and \$40,236 (median 1999) meaning an average family can afford housing priced at an average of \$70,675 to \$95,893.

Wexford has many low paying jobs, or jobs which provide poor benefits, resulting in over 1,159 households receiving food stamps.

Cadillac urban area is a mini-governmental center.

Wexford County is among the top counties in the state (varies from year-to-year from #1 to #3 county) in Christmas Tree production. Christmas trees in northwest Michigan can have a greater value than the cherry industry.

2,785 jobs, or 15% of the labor force are directly related to tourism.

About 17,410 of the jobs in the 22,544 job Wexford-Missaukee labor market area are located in Wexford County. Annual average unemployment rate has ranged from 10.22% in 1995 to 6.04% in 2000 (2,090 to 1,360 unemployed).

The percentage of workers in sales, services, farming, forestry, machine operating, assembly, and equipment handling in Wexford County is higher than the statewide average.

Wexford-Missaukee’s economic sectors are proportionally larger than the Michigan average for Agriculture, forestry, mining, construction, wholesale and retail, health and education, and government.

In the future it is anticipated that employees will be following two career paths.

1. “Service” oriented characterized by low paying jobs, low amount of education needed, and ability to use a computer.
2. “High tech” characterized by high pay, high levels of education, computer use and programing, need for Internet access, and the possibility of telecommuting.

Futurists further predict that the continued growth of “high tech” jobs will continue to bring about additional changes: virtual office, less significance in the meaning “going to work” virtual companies with employees scattered worldwide. People can choose to live where



they want.

**Income Statistics for Wexford and Surrounding Counties, 2000**

COUNTY	2000 POP.	MEDIAN HSHLD INCOME \$	MEDIAN PER CAPITA INCOME \$	% OF POP. RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	FAMILIES LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	INDIVIDUALS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	% UNEMPLOYED
WEXFORD	30,484	35,363	17,144	4.2%	7.7%	10.3%	6.9%
Manistee	24,527	34,208	17,204	3.5%	6.9%	10.3%	6.5%
Missaukee	14,478	35,224	16,072	4.3%	8.2%	10.7%	6.5%
Osceola	23,197	34,102	15,632	3.8%	9.5%	12.7%	6.6%
Grand Traverse	77,654	43,169	22,111	2.0%	3.8%	5.9%	4.6%
Kalkaska	16,571	36,072	16,309	3.4%	8.2%	10.5%	6.4%
Benzie	15,998	37,350	18,524	2.0%	4.7%	7.0%	6.2%
Lake	11,333	26,622	14,457	6.3%	14.7%	19.4%	8.4%
AREA-WIDE	214,242	35,264	17,182	3.7%	8.0%	10.9%	6.5%

SOURCE: US Census Bureau, Economic and Social Characteristics 2000.

**HEALTH INDICATORS**

One of the major challenges facing residents of Wexford County is developing and maintaining healthy lifestyles. In 2006, the United Way of Wexford and Missaukee Counties, in conjunction with the Cadillac Area Community Foundation and the Human Services Leadership Council, published the “Wexford and Missaukee 2006 Indicator Report”. According to the study, Wexford County experienced death rates for heart disease, cancer, stroke, and chronic lower respiratory disease in 2004 that were all higher than the state average. According to a 2004 survey by the Michigan Department of Community Health, it was estimated that 77% of residents in the Wexford-Missaukee County area are either overweight or obese.

## **PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

### **CLIMATE<sup>5</sup>**

Temperatures in Wexford County vary from a February minimum average of 7.9°F to a August maximum average of 76.7°F. The record low was -43°F in January 30, 1951, and record high of 104°F in July 13, 1936. The highest average monthly maximum temperature was 87.2°F recorded in July 1955, and the lowest average monthly minimum temperature was -4.5°F, recorded in February 1978.

Heating and cooling degree-days data are used as an index of the heating and cooling requirements for buildings which are proportional to the number of degree-days. Heating degree-days for a single day are obtained by subtracting the mean temperature from 65°F from the mean temperature when the mean temperature is below 65°F. Cooling degree-days for a single day are obtained by subtracting 65°F from the mean temperature when the mean temperature is above 65°F. Each are then summed to yield monthly totals.

**Heating and Cooling Degree Days Table**

MONTH	HEATING DEGREE DAYS	COOLING DEGREE DAYS
January	1,475	0
February	1,332	0
March	1,175	0
April	705	1
May	383	15
June	137	62
July	58	104
August	88	82
September	264	25
October	558	2
November	910	0
December	1,307	0
Year	8,392	291

Based on the 1951-1980 period, the average date of the last freezing temperature in the spring was June 3. The average date of the first freezing temperature in the fall was September 12. The freeze-free period, or growing season averaged 100 days annually.

Wexford County is located about 21 to 28 miles<sup>6</sup> east of Lake Michigan. As a result of prevailing westerly winds, crossing Lake Michigan, Wexford County experiences a lake effect

<sup>5</sup>Discussion on climate based on the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Climatology Program, 417 Natural Science Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

<sup>6</sup>The distance is about 21 miles at the north end, and 28 miles at the south end of Wexford County. The difference is due to the irregular Lake Michigan coastline.

influence on the weather. The lake effect is mainly in the winter, providing increased cloudiness and snowfall. With northeast winds the sky may clear and provide lower temperatures more commonly experienced at interior locations. The lake effect has almost no effect in the summer, or for agricultural purposes. Wexford's climate is characterized by larger temperature ranges than in areas at the same latitude near the Great Lakes.

Wexford County seldom experiences prolonged periods of hot, humid weather in the summer or extreme cold during winter due to the movement of pressure systems across the nation. The prevailing wind is westerly, averaging 9 miles per hour (mph). The average 1 p.m. relative humidity varies from 51% for May to 78% for December, and averages 63% annually.

Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year. The crop season, April-September, receives an average of 18.37 inches of rain, or 60% of the average annual total during the 1951-1980 period. In the same period the wettest month was September with 3.48 inches. The average driest month was February with 1.38 inches. The largest amount of precipitation in a 24 hour period was 3.77 inches in May 27-28, 1945. The greatest monthly total was 12.25 inches in September 1986. The least monthly total was 0.00 inches in September 1979.

Summer precipitation is mainly in the form of afternoon showers and thundershowers. Annually, thunderstorms occur on an average of 33 days. Michigan is at the northeast fringe of the Midwest tornado belt. During 1950-1987 there were five tornadoes in Wexford County.

In winter the 1950-1951 through 1979-1980 average seasonal snowfall was 71.4 inches. During this period 114 days per season average 1 inch or more of snow on the ground, but varies greatly from year to year. The greatest snow depth of 42 inches was recorded February 24, 1959. The largest amount of snowfall is 12 inches in a day on January 27, 1978. The largest monthly total is 60.1 inches in January 1982. The greatest seasonal total is 181 inches in 1984-1985. The least seasonal total is 26.9 inches in 1936-1937.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

About 50 percent of Wexford County is made up of rolling to steep glacial moraines, with most of the remainder undulating or nearly level glacial out wash plains. The highest point in Wexford County is Briar Hill at 1,706 feet elevation. (Appendix N)

## **SOILS**

Soils information used for this plan is based on the *Soil Survey of Lake and Wexford Counties Michigan* of August 1985 shown on Appendix C. The soils information is a major source of data on the county's land resources. Soil data is a major factor in determining prime forest lands and timber productivity rates, in identifying nationally prime farmlands and locally essential farmlands, and soil characteristics play a role in determining septic tank feasibility, residential and commercial development, industrial disposal limitations, and so on.

A short listing of the soil types found in Wexford County are:

**Sandy Soils.** Nearly level to steep, somewhat excessively drained and well drained sandy soils. Not fertile, thus not productive for crops or trees. Fast leaching, which tends to make groundwater vulnerable to contamination from the surface.

- ⌘ Rubicon-Montcalm-Graycalm
- ⌘ Grayling-Graycalm
- ⌘ Kalkaska
- ⌘ Croswell sand
- ⌘ Pits

**Sandy Loam Soils.** Nearly level, undulating, to steep, well drained loamy and sandy soils.

- ⌘ Emmet-Montcalm
- ⌘ Hodenpyl-Karlin

**Loam and Clay-Loam Soils.** Nearly level to steep well drained and somewhat poorly drained loamy and sandy soils. Tends to be the more fertile, productive soils. Also tends to be soils that are problems for use of on site sewage disposal systems.

- ⌘ Nester-Kawkawlin-Manistee

**Wetland and flood plain Soils.** Nearly level and undulating, very poorly drained and moderately well drained mucky and sandy soils in bogs, depressions, drainage ways.

- ⌘ Tawas-Croswell-Lupton
- ⌘ Au Gres-Finch sands
- ⌘ Allendale loamy sand
- ⌘ (Fluvaquents and Histosols)
- ⌘ Winterfield sands

**Wexford County Soil Usage Chart<sup>7</sup>**

(For full details, see *Soil Survey of Lake and Wexford Counties Michigan*<sup>8</sup>)

Map Symbol and Soil Series Name	Hydrologic Soil Group	Agri-culture Typical-ly Farmed or Prime farm land	Forest Site Index 70+ for at least one species	On site drain fields (septic system)	Leaching Potential	Limited Development Due to Slope of Land	Slope is a Problem	Okay for Development of Home with basement	Okay for Development of Commercial	This is a Hydric Soil
10A AuGres Finch	B	Limited	Yes	No - Wet	medium					
11A Croswell	A			No - Wet	high					
12B Emmet Montcalm	B-A	Prime - Yes		Okay	medium			Yes	Yes	
12C Emmet Montcalm	B-A	Yes		Okay	medium			Yes		
12D Emmet Montcalm	B-A	Yes		Okay	medium					
12E Emmet Montcalm	B-A			No - Slope	medium	Yes	Yes			
13B Grayling	A			Okay but Poor Filter	high			Yes	Yes	
14A Allendale	B			No - Wet	low					
15B Kalkaska	A	Yes		Okay but Poor Filter	high			Yes	Yes	
15C Kalkaska	A	Yes		Okay but Poor Filter	high			Yes		

<sup>7</sup>This is a generalization of uses for each soil map unit. Please refer to the soil survey for further details. The soil survey should not be used for site specific information. On-site investigations should be completed for specific projects.

<sup>8</sup>Soil Conservation Service; *Soil Survey of Lake and Wexford Counties Michigan*; United States Department of Agriculture (and U.S. Forest Service, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station); August 1985.

Map Symbol and Soil Series Name	Hydrologic Soil Group	Agri-culture Typical-ly Farmed or Prime farm land	Forest Site Index 70+ for at least one species	On site drain fields (septic system)	Leaching Potential	Limited Development Due to Slope of Land	Slope is a Problem	Okay for Development of Home with basement	Okay for Development of Commercial	This is a Hydric Soil
15E Kalkaska	A			No - Slope	high	Yes	Yes			
16B Hodenpyl-Karlin	B-A	Prime-Yes		Okay	medium			Yes	Yes	
17A Kawkawlin	C	Prime-Yes		No - Wet	low					
18 Loxley peat	A/D			No - Wet						Yes
19 Lupton Muck	A/D			No - Wet						Yes
20B Montcalm Graycalm	A	Yes	Yes	Okay	high			Yes	Yes	
20C Montcalm Graycalm	A	Yes	Yes	Okay	high			Yes		
20E Montcalm Graycalm	A		Yes	No - Slope	high	Yes	Yes			
21B Nester	C	Prime-Yes		Okay but some wetness	low					
21C Nester	C	Yes		Okay but some wetness	low					
21E Nester	C			No - Slope	low	Yes	Yes			
22 Tawas Roscommon	A/D			No - Wet	low medium (D)					Yes
23B Rubicon	A	Yes		No - Poor Filter	high			Yes		
23E Rubicon	A			No - Poor Filter, Slope	high	Yes	Yes			
24D Rubicon	A			No - Poor Filter, Slope	high	Yes	Yes			
25 Pits	N/A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
26B Manistee Montcalm	A	Yes		Okay	high			Yes	Yes	
26C Manistee Montcalm	A	Yes		Okay	high					
28C Dighton	B	Yes		No - Perk, Poor Filter	medium					
29B Graycalm Grayling	A		Yes	Okay but Poor Filter	high			Yes	Yes	
29D Graycalm Grayling	A		Yes	No	high	Yes	Yes			
30B Kalkaska East Lake	A			Yes - Poor Filter	high			Yes	Yes	
30C Kalkaska East Lake	A	No		Yes- Poor Filter	high	No				
30E Kalkaska East Lake	A	No		No	high	Yes	Yes			
34 Winterfield	A/D	No		No - Wet	Low	No				Yes
35B Mancelona East Lake	A	No	Yes	Yes - Poor Filter	high	No		Yes	Yes	
36B Kalkaska Banded	A	No		Yes - Poor Filter	high	No		Yes	Yes	

Map Symbol and Soil Series Name	Hydrologic Soil Group	Agri-culture Typical-ly Farmed or Prime farm land	Forest Site Index 70+ for at least one species	On site drain fields (septic system)	Leaching Potential	Limited Development Due to Slope of Land	Slope is a Problem	Okay for Development of Home with basement	Okay for Development of Commercial	This is a Hydric Soil
36C Kalkaska Banded	A	No	Yes	No	high	No				
36E Kalkaska Banded	A	No	Yes	No	high	Yes	Yes			
37 Fluvaquants		No		No - Wet	n/a	No				Yes

The soil survey is useful for broad planning purposes and for making zoning ordinance policy decisions. However, site inspection is necessary for planning specifics, such as for buildings, roads, farm operation, taxation and so on.

The soil map presented on Appendix C, is generalized from the soils report. More detail is available from the Wexford County Conservation District. The Wexford portions of the *Soil Survey of Lake and Wexford Counties Michigan* and soil GIS digital files, are adopted and made a part of this *Plan* by this reference.

**VEGETATIVE COVER**

The forests of Wexford County include hemlock and other coniferous trees, such as red and white pine, spruce and fir, and deciduous trees, such as birch, beech, maple, basswood, and oak. Swamp and wetland vegetation patterns are also found along with a multitude of shrubs. As a result of intensive lumbering in the past, most of these forested areas are second growth and the original forest habitat patterns have been altered to some degree.

The greatest share of land in Wexford County falls in the forest category. The three principal segments are the United States Manistee National Forest, the Michigan Pere Marquette State Forest and the large tracts of land owned by Consumers Energy (formerly Consumers Power) along the Manistee River. Approximately 10,000 acres of Consumers Energy property has been sold in the last 25 years; primarily to the Federal and State groups. All of these areas are under some degree of woodland-wildlife-recreation management plan.

U.S. Government - Manistee National Forest	95,626
State of Michigan Pere Marquette State Forest	54,034
Municipalities ( inc. Manton)	1,122
Wexford County ( inc. Manton)	748
School districts ( inc. Manton)	2,490
TOTAL	*154,020

\*In acres

**WATER & RECREATION RESOURCES**

Wexford County’ surface waters are major attractions for recreation and tourism. Wexford County is divided between two major drainage areas –watersheds: the Big Manistee River and the Muskegon River (Clam River/Lakes Cadillac/Mitchell). Both flow into Lake Michigan. The Manistee River watershed can be further divided into 60 smaller drainage areas. Among them, some of the major ones include: Pine River, (including Poplar Creek and North Branch Pine River/Fairchild/Spalding Creeks), Slagle Creek, Fletcher Creek, Wheeler Creek (Lake Gitchegumee), Anderson Creek, Silver Creek, Manton Creek, and Fife Lake Outlet. Also there is a large number of named and unnamed feeder creeks to the Big Manistee River in the north central part of Wexford County representing artesian flow from groundwater moving north from the glacial hills toward the river. A map prepared using GIS, (Appendix D), shows the estimated divides between watersheds in the county.

Watersheds are the areas around a creek, river or lake which drain into that creek, river or lake. Thus any water which does not evaporate or soak into the ground flows downhill to a particular body of water. The major river systems in the county are shown on a map in Appendix E.

As can be seen by the surface water map and generalized watersheds map, the bulk of the county is within the watershed of the Big Manistee River/Pine River. These two areas provide drainage for most of the southern, central, west and north parts of the county. The Cadillac

urban area is within the Clam River/Muskegon River which includes the east central and east-south part of the county.

The Big Manistee River is a federal Wild and Scenic River, administered by the U.S. Forest Service downstream from Wexford County, in Manistee County. Also the Pine River in Wexford County is a federal Wild and Scenic River. The Big Manistee River is also under study by the DNR for designation as a state Natural River. The area under consideration includes all of the river in Wexford County and an unknown number of tributaries.

The bulk of the land along the Pine River is owned and managed by the United States Forest Service. The bulk of the land along the Big Manistee is owned by the State of Michigan (and managed by the Forestry Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources) and Consumers Energy Company. With such designation, plus all the additional attributes associated with the Big Manistee River and Pine River valleys, the resource deserves particular attention.

Major wetlands in Wexford County include:

- Hinton-Arquilla Creeks headwaters;
- The headwaters to westerly unnamed feeder creeks to Fletcher Creek;
- A network of wetlands which are headwaters to Silver Creek and feeders, Buttermilk Creek feeders, and to the west of Manton Creek;:
- The bayous and valley associated with the Big Manistee and Pine Rivers;:
- The headwaters of Fairchild Creek and feeders/Poplar Creek;:
- Brandy Brook (a.k.a. Thousand Acre Swamp); and:
- Heritage-Cadillac Nature Study Area.

Appendix F, illustrates those areas of the county considered wetlands. Compared to other counties, Wexford does not have a large acreage of lands classified as wetlands.

There are wetlands in the county which should receive special attention. They include:

- Brandy Brook;
- Heritage-Cadillac Nature Study Area;
- the bayous and valley associated with the Big Manistee and Pine Rivers; and
- the network of wetlands which are headwaters to Silver Creek and feeders, Buttermilk Creek feeders, and to the west of Manton Creek.

Major Lakes in Wexford County include:

- Lake Mitchell,
- Lake Cadillac,
- Hodenpyl Dam Pond,
- Long Lake,
- Lake Gitchegume,
- Pleasant Lake,
- Stone Ledge Lake,
- Lake Meauwataka (Dayhuff Lake),
- Berry Lake,
- Woodward Lake, and
- Round Lake.



These are mostly shallow lakes, where the lake bottom represents locations where the surface of the ground is lower than the groundwater table. These lakes are mostly spring fed.

Along with the discussion of surface water several areas of Wexford County -- mainly along the Clam River --are classified as flood prone or flood hazard areas. The classification exists for townships which have passed resolutions to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program created by the U.S. Congress.

All the streams in Wexford County are quality trout streams because of abundant groundwater discharge into the surface water resulting in cold water streams. With this situation it is very important – from a fisheries perspective – to protect groundwater and stream edges. Identified as an environmental concern, a multi-disciplinary team with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has developed a *Riparian Zone Management Guidelines* for land use along stream edges. These guidelines are recommendations for land management along streams which are applicable for the rivers in Wexford.

## **LAND USE**

Use of land changes over time. In Wexford County 62 square miles of land has changed use or cover over a 20 year period. A map of these changes is shown on Appendix G.

Changes from 1978 to 1998/99 can be summarized with the following points:

- Nearly 31 square miles (19,880 acres) of agricultural lands were lost in Wexford County from 1978 to 1998/99. That is an average of a  $2\frac{3}{4}$  acre farmland loss per day.
- In most areas of Wexford County farmland loss is **not** a result of urbanization or sprawl. Sprawl appears to only be happening around the City of Cadillac area, and impacting farmland loss in Clam Lake Township. Most of the county is seeing a loss of farmland for other reasons; with former farmland now being grass/shrub land (52%) and forest (39%).
- Farmland devoted to christmas tree production increased.
- Deciduous forest in Wexford received the second largest loss with 9.6 fewer square miles (6,147.75 fewer acres) of broadleaf forest. The area of the county which is classified as forested ( $70\frac{1}{3}\%$ ) is a much greater area, so the percentage of loss is only 3.4%.
- Less than normal change occurred in Hanover, South Branch and Henderson Townships. Moderately low change occurred in Slagle, Boon, Springville, Colfax and Greenwood Townships.
- The second largest gain in the county was in urbanization (residential, commercial/services/institutional, industrial, transportation/utilities, extractive (sand or gravel pits), and other (cemeteries, parks, recreation areas) land use/cover categories). An additional 9.4 square miles (6,012 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres) have become urbanized. This represents a  $56\frac{3}{4}\%$  increase over the urban areas in 1978. Today there is  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the county in urban land use categories, about 26 square miles (16,606 acres).
- Lands that have become urbanized were, in 1978, mainly forest and grass/shrub. About 24% was agricultural land uses.
- Sprawl has become a buzz word for a type of development which has bad connotations. However not all sprawl is “bad.” Sprawl is a necessary part of what

happens when a community grows. In one view sprawl becomes “bad” when it happens without the corresponding growth. In that case one has urban development spreading out on the land (more roads, sewer, water pipes) with additional public costs without the increased number of people to pay taxes to pay for those services. This has been happening in Michigan.

- Residential increased by about 6 square miles (3,853 acres) from 1978 to 1998/99, a 57½% increase over 1978. Wexford’s population grew 21½% during 1980-2000. Residential growth, by itself, can be considered the third largest land use/cover growth change in Wexford County, even though some may consider it a subset of “urban.”
- Residential sprawl – in terms of disconnected concentrated residential development (subdivisions, around lakes, etc.) – appears most prevalent in the south two thirds of Haring Township and the north half of Clam Lake Township.
- Residential sprawl – in terms of appearance of unplanned rural lineal development along roads – is most prevalent in the Haring, Clam Lake, Cherry Grove, and Selma Townships. Less prevalent, it is also seen around Manton (Cedar Creek Township), and around Mesick. This feature of the landscape was almost non-existent in 1978.
- Creation of an Urban Growth Boundary has been a very successful tool in other communities to manage growth so that it does not occur in a sprawl fashion. Four possible Urban Growth Boundaries around Cadillac are presented to start such discussion
- “Other urban” (cemeteries, parks, recreation areas) grew by almost 1.4 square miles (928.6 acres) from 1978-1998/99 – a 95% increase over 1978 land uses. Much of this growth can be attributed to new golf courses, Caberfae resort, and the Buckley Engine Show grounds.
- Two square miles (1,321 acres, or ⅓% of the county) is commercial/service/institutional. Commercial land use grew 0.94 square miles (602 acres) for a 83% growth over 1978 land used for commercial land uses.
- One and a half square miles (961½ acres, or ¼% of the county) is industrial. This land use category increased ⅓ of a square mile (216 acres) in the 20-year study period. That represents a 29% growth rate over the 1978 area of industrial land use.
- Grass/shrub lands is the third largest gain with an additional 5¾ square miles (3,685.3 acres, or 11% of the county) in this land use/cover category. The rate of change is 10% over the 1978 land area. Most of the gain in rangelands/fields/grassland came from agriculture loss. About 17⅔ square miles (11,288 acres, or 51.797% of the total grassland gain) was from agriculture land uses.
- A major part of a county plan is a future land use map, that should be drawn based on an analysis of natural and cultural resources.

## **ZONING**

The majority of land in Wexford County has been placed in the low to medium density residential zoning districts. Public and privately owned parks and recreation areas are generally allowed in these zones, either as a permitted or special use. The adopted Wexford County Zoning Map is shown on Appendix H.

## **TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

Wexford county is serviced by the Great Lakes Railway Company from Clare, Mt. Pleasant,

Midland and points south to Traverse City, Yuma, and toward Petoskey. The rail north of Yuma has been removed and has potential for a rail-to-trail transition.

Hendrick Meijer White Pine Trail follows the former rail road grade south of Cadillac ninety-two (92) miles to Grand Rapids. The White Pine trail was recently paved from Cadillac to Leroy. In Reed City the White Pine Trail intersects with the Pere Marquette rail-to-trail. This trail system is operated as a state park by the Department of Natural Resources.

The White Pine Trail would then connect with the round-the-lake bike route which circles Lake Cadillac. The City of Cadillac maintains this route. Also connecting with the bike route is the Keith McKellop Walkway<sup>9</sup> following the Lake Cadillac shore in the lineal city park on the northeast part of the lake. Another connect is the Cadillac Heritage Nature Study Area nature trails at the Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center in the William Mitchell State Park.

In turn the bike route would be able to connect with a proposed Clam River Greenway. This trail is proposed to run along the Clam River from Lake Cadillac's lakefront lineal park to the CASA-Wise sports complex. There is further potential for this trail system to connect to the Cadillac Pathway in western Missaukee County.

The North Country Trail is a national trail system which runs from New York to Minnesota. Its route north through the lower peninsula of Michigan enters Wexford County in Springville Township and follows county roads until it is able to enter a large block of public land ownership along the Big Manistee River. This foot path (hiking, mountain biking) then follows the north side of the Big Manistee River to the east side of Wexford County, leaving the county to go toward Fife Lake. A spur, or loop to the North Country Trail – the Manistee River Trail – enters Wexford County to go to Seaton USFS Campground.

In the City of Manton volunteers are developing the Manton Pathways which starts at the west end of Cedar Street and circles around to the northwest. There is potential to connect this trail to the North Country Trail.

Through Mesick is an abandoned rail right-of-way which goes toward Thompsonville. From Thompsonville to Elberta it is being developed into a bike/hiking trail through the efforts of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Betsie Valley Trail, Inc., Benzie County, and Rails-To-Trails. There is potential for the Mesick area to connect to this trail system and to connect to the North Country Trail.

A more difficult link, due to distance and private land, would be to connect the Clam River Greenway-Cadillac area trails to the Manton-Mesick-North Country Trail system.

Other trails include Missaukee Junction Off-Road Vehicle trails north of Cadillac. A

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<sup>9</sup>The walkway is named after Keith "Mac" McKellop, 1911-2001, who was instrumental in the vision of, fund-raising for, and construction of the trail as chair of the Lakefront Development Committee. McKellop was active in many Cadillac civic organizations, Cadillac-Wexford County Library Board, Wexford County Historical Museum, the Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce President, "Citizen of the Year," member of Cadillac City Council and mayor pro-tem. He was also instrumental in establishing Cadillac as Tree City U.S.A.

snowmobile trail system in the Manistee National Forest connects Cadillac, the Caberfae Ski area, Wellston, and Baldwin.

The Cadillac Cross-Country Ski Trail enters Wexford County in Henderson Township and goes north, leaving the county at Greenwood Township.

The Wexford County Airport serves general aviation, corporate flying, and pilot training activities. It is on land owned by the City of Cadillac and Wexford County.

Cadillac-Wexford Transit Authority Inc., (Dial-A-Ride) provides on demand door-to-door service throughout the county.

The county is served by six state/federal highways U.S.-131, Old US-131/Business US-131, M-115, M-55, M-37, and M-42. The General Highway Map is shown on Appendix I.

The county is served by six state/federal highways:

- **U.S.-131** which is the main artery in the county traveling through Cadillac and Manton Cities from Grand Rapids/Big Rapids to Petoskey. Most of this route in Wexford County is a four-lane limited access facility;
- **Old US-131/ Business US-131** which is the former routing of US-131 between the northly junction with US-131 freeway north of Manton and the southerly junction with US-131 freeway just south of Cadillac. The Old US-131 sections of this route are considered by MDOT to be an unsigned state highway.
- **M-115** traveling through from Clare through Cadillac City and Mesick Village to Frankfort.
- **M-55** which heads east-west across the lower peninsula from Tawas City on Lake Huron/Lake City in Missaukee County through Cadillac to Manistee on Lake Michigan;
- **M-37** going north from Grand Rapids/Baldwin along the west edge of Wexford County through Mesick Village to Traverse City;
- **M-42** which traverses the northeast part of Wexford going from Lake City (Missaukee County) to Manton City. (A 15-mile section of M-42 between Manton and Mesick was recently decommissioned as a state highway and turned over to the Wexford County Road Commission).

U.S.-131 is considered a principal statewide artery, while M-55, M-37, and M-115 are regional arterials. M-55 is also considered a federal forest highway, and managed by the USFS as a scenic highway. M-42 is a local highway servicing a short distance. A nineteen (19) mile segment of U.S.-131 was re-routed between 1998-2004 as part of the Interstate Freeway System from the south to a point just south of the Big Manistee River (north of Manton). This result in a Business Route U.S.-131 through the central business district of Cadillac and Manton. In preparation of this a *Cadillac Area Corridor Study*<sup>10</sup> was prepared with recommendation for enhancement of the business route in Haring Charter Township, Clam Lake Township, and City of Cadillac. There is discussion of a similar planning effort in the Manton area.

<sup>101</sup>Haring Charter Township, Clam Lake Township, City of Cadillac; *Cadillac Area Corridor Study*; September 1999; pages 39-40.

Parts of Haring Charter Township, Clam Lake Township, and all of the City of Cadillac is also classified within a federal aid urban boundary which qualifies for federal funding assistance for safety related road construction projects. Shown on Appendix G, are the state highways and the county primary roads. County primaries also receive federal aid money for their construction and maintenance. (County local roads, on the other hand, are the responsibility of local funding, with at least 60 percent municipal funds.)

Paved roads are important for residential and commercial areas.

All-season roads (not subject to Frost Laws) are:<sup>11</sup>

- **US-131;**
- **Old US-131;**
- **M-115;**
- **M-55;**
- **M-37;**
- **E 34 Road** (Boon Road) from 25 Road east to the Missaukee County line;
- **E 36 Road** (Thirteenth Street) from M-115 to S 45 Road (Crosby Road);
- **S 45 Road** (Crosby Road) from E 36 Road (Thirteenth Street) south to M-55;
- **S 41½ Road** (Mackinaw Trail) from the south county line north to Business Route US-131;
- **E 48 Road** (McBain Road) from M-115 east to the Missaukee County line;
- **S 47 Road** from M-115 to E 48 Road (McBain Road);
- **W 14 Road** (Thirteen Mile Road/Bear Lake Road) from M-115 west to the Manistee County line;
- **N 9 Road** from M-115 to W 4 Road;
- **W 4 Road** from N 9 Road to M-37;
- **N 29 Road/29 ¼ Road/ 31Road** (Meauwataka and Baxter Bridge Roads) from M-115 in Selma Township to the north county line.
- **Works Avenue** E of Business US-131 in Haring Twp.
- **Hanthorne Street** from 13<sup>th</sup> Street to Boon Road (34 Road) in Haring Twp.
- **E. 32 Road** from M-115 to 33 ½ Road in Selma Twp.
- **Hodenpyl Dam Road** from M-115 south to the Manistee Co. line in Springville Twp.
- **24 Road, E of 29 Road, continuing E to 31 Road, continuing S to 28 Road, continuing E to 37 Road, continuing S to 13<sup>th</sup> Street.**
- **14 ¼ Road** from US-131 E to 43 ½ Road in Cedar Creek Twp.
- **Casa Road** N of 13<sup>th</sup> Street in Haring Twp.

<sup>11</sup>M-42 is not an all-season truck route.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

Recreation Planning for Wexford County is done as a separate process. The *Wexford County Recreation Plan* was last done in 2008 and is valid through April 1, 2013. As this is written (March, 2013) the process is starting to update that plan. Presented here are recreation inventory and overview information which is not likely to change and does not duplicate data found elsewhere in this *Fact Book*.<sup>12</sup>

Each year, a proposed budget is requested by the County Administrator from the Civic Center Business Manager (Table 1). Each proposal must contain back-up material to support it. The County Administrator then considers the requests from all departments and based upon the available funds, recommends a general operations budget to the Board of Commissioners for their consideration.

The budget is then considered before a public review hearing and formally adopted by the Board. Thereafter, the budget may be amended if necessary by the County Administrator. The Civic Center Business Manager is responsible for overseeing the revenues and expenditures in that department and reports all necessary amendments to the County Administrator. The county must supply some general financial support to maintain the facility.

### **CIVIC CENTER STAFF**

The Civic Center is currently staffed by one full-time manager, one night manager and two full-time maintenance workers and part time staff. The manager utilizes county work release medium security prisoners on a regular basis and other county maintenance employees and supervisors when necessary.

The manager oversees the budget, promotes activities, maintains the grounds, updates the County Administrator on any major repairs or needs of the facility, and insures that all safety measures are met. In addition, the manager deals with the public and insures that all renters provide the county with proper insurance coverage, such as hold harmless agreements.

The manager may recommend policy to the County Administrator. As the facility develops more recreational activities, the need for additional staff to meet the increase in demand will also be necessary.

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

The County Administrator oversees the Civic Center Management. The Administrator works with the manager on the budget and is the first contact in the chain of command when problems or needs arise. The County Administrator may interpret county policy as established by the Board of Commissioners for recreation facilities and recommend any changes therein.

### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Wexford County Board of Commissioners has final approval on all expenditures, fees, operation policies, and manpower requirements that may be required to operate and maintain

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<sup>12</sup>County Citizens Committee on Recreation Matters; *Wexford County Recreation Plan*; 1996 (as amended through June 30, 2000); pp.27-30, 32-34, 36-47.



county recreation facilities. Major renovations or additional buildings at any site must have final approval of the Board of Commissioners.

**RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER AGENCIES**

The county recognizes the need for other municipalities to use county recreation facilities. Presently, programs are organized and supervised by local school districts and the City of Cadillac at the Civic Center and the ice rink. In addition, the Fair board utilizes the Civic Center and grounds during the summer fair. Sports associations and clubs utilize the Civic Center on a regular basis.

Fees range from low-cost for general users such as senior walkers and child skaters to full-cost for commercial users. In addition, school districts and other non-profit organizations are provided reduced rates. Any legislative, executive, or judicial body at the local, state, or federal level is allowed to use the Civic Center for public meetings, as long as no contracted, scheduled use is booked.



**RECREATION INVENTORY**

**LIST OF OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES**

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Outdoor Recreation Site	Size	Description of Facilities Available
4.	Antioch, Boon, and Henderson Townships	USFS	Pere Marquette Cycle Trail	40 miles	Motorcycle Trails
31.	Antioch Township	Twp	Antioch Township Park	40 acres	Fishing
71.	Boon Township	County	Pinoco Park	40 acres	Camping, Nature Study, Trail, Bridle Trail, Picnic Sites
89.	Boon Township	Private	Lost Pines Recreation Area	320 acres	Snowmobile Trails, Horseback Riding
8.	Boon, Cherry Grove, Henderson, Slagle, and South Branch Townships	USFS/ DNR	Caberfae Way Snowmobile Trail	187 miles	Snowmobile Trails
72.	Cedar Creek Twp.	Church	Manton Free Methodist Campground	50 acres	Camping, Children's Play equipment, Playfields
73.	Cedar Creek Twp.	Private	Manton Snow Devils Snowmobile Club	5 acres	Snowmobile Trails
21.	Cedar Creek, Haring, and Liberty Twps.		Northern Gateway Trail	17 acres	Bridle Trail, Hiking Trail, Camping
1.	Cherry Grove Twp.	USA	Hemlock Campground	7 acres	Camping, Boat Launch, Fishing
32.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Twp.	Forest Lawn Drive Boat Launch	.2 acre	Boat Launch
33.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Private	Sunset Point Boat Launch	.2 acre	Boat Launch
34.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Twp.	West Shore Park Boat Launch	.1 acre	Boat Launch
35.	Henderson Twp.	CAPS	Forest View Elementary School	.5 acre	Children's Play Equipment, Playfields, Basketball Court
90.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Private	Best Western of Cadillac	10 acres	Tennis, Shuffleboard, Children's Play Equipment
91.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Private	Cadillac Country Club	100 acres	Golf
92.	Cherry Grove Twp.	Private	Johnny's Wild Game and Fish Park	80 acres	Zoo, fishing
2.	Cherry Grove and Henderson Twps		Olga Lake Auto Tour Trail	14 miles	Picnic Sites, Auto Trail, Exhibitions
47.	City of Cadillac	City	Diggins Hill	23 acres	Sledding, Tennis Courts
48.	City of Cadillac	City	Kenwood Heritage Park	80 acres	Picnic Sites, Swimming, Boat Launch, Children's Play Equipment, Nature



No.	Location	Owner	Name of Outdoor Recreation Site	Size	Description of Facilities Available
					Study Trail, Frisbie Golf
49.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Lincoln Field	8 acres	Children's Play Equipment, Ball Diamond, Tennis Courts, Basketball Courts, Volleyball Courts
50.	City of Cadillac	City	Lakefront Park	29 acres	Shuffleboard, Picnic Sites, Benches, Boat Launch/Docking, Pier/Fishing, Playground Equipment, Performing Arts Pavilion, Walking Paths, Restrooms
51.	City of Cadillac	City	CASA Field	5 acres	Ball Diamonds, Soccer Field
53.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Memorial Stadium	20 acres	Organized Sports Field Track
54.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Mills Field	3 acres	Ball Diamond
55.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Community Tennis Courts	1 acre	Tennis Courts
57.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Cooley Alternative School	.5 acre	Basketball Court, Beach Volleyball Court, Playground Equipment
58.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Franklin Elementary School	.5 acre	Children's Play Equipment, Playfields, Basketball/ Tennis Courts
59.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Kenwood Elementary School	.5 acre	Children's Play Equipment, Playfields, Basketball Court
60.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	McKinley Elementary School	.5 acre	Children's Play Equipment, Playfields, Basketball Court
61.	City of Cadillac	Church	St. Ann's Elementary School	.5 acre	Children's Play Equipment
62.	City of Manton	City	Railroad Park	1 acre	Shuffleboard, Horseshoes, Picnic Sites
63.	City of Manton	City	Lake Billings Park	16 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Swimming, Playfields, Fishing
64.	City of Manton	City	Rotary Memorial Park	4.7 acres	Swimming, Picnic Sites, Fishing
65.	City of Manton	School	Community School	8 acres	Children's Play Equipment, Ball Diamonds, Organized Sports Field
13.	Clam Lake Township	State	Mitchell State Park	32.4 acres	Camping, Swimming, Picnic Sites, Boat Launch, Children's Play

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Outdoor Recreation Site	Size	Description of Facilities Available
					Equipment
14.	Clam Lake Township	State	Berry Lake Access Site	1 acre	Boat Launch, Fishing
15.	Clam Lake Township	State	NB Rest Area Ed Eckert Roadside Park	28 acres	Picnic Sites
93.	Clam Lake Township	Private	McGuire's Resort Area	180 acres	Golf, Toboggan Run, X-Country Skiing
36.	Colfax Township		Lester A. Barnes Memorial Park	67 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Boat Launch, Fishing, Swimming
16.	Greenwood Twp.	State	Baxter Bridge Access Site	1 acre	Fishing, Boat Launch
17.	Greenwood Twp.	State	Baxter Bridge, Campground and Canoe Camp	25 acres	Camping, Boat Launch
74.	Greenwood Twp.	Private	Manton Sportsman Club	1 acre	Hunting
75.	Greenwood Twp.	Private	Woodsmen Club	80 acres	Hunting
18.	Hanover Twp.	State	Harvey Bridge Access Site	1 acre	Boat Launch, Fishing
19.	Hanover Twp.	State	Indian Crossing Campground and Canoe Camp	10 acres	Camping, Boat Launch
6.	Hanover Twp.	Private	Lake Gitchegumme Assoc	1.5 acres	Swimming, Boat Launch, Fishing, Playfields
20.	Haring Township	State	Long Lake Forest Campground	10 acres	Camping, Boat Launch, Fishing
37.	Haring Township	County	Wexford Civic Arena	40 acres	Racetrack
77.	Missaukee County	Private	Cadillac Sportsmen's Club	5 acres	Shooting
78.	Haring Township	Private	Cadillac Motorcycle Club	40 acres	Racetrack
3.	Henderson Township	USA	Ravine Picnic Area and Campground	3 acres	Picnic Sites, Camping, Hiking Trail, Fishing
23.	Liberty Township		Chase Creek Campground and Canoe Livery	10 acres	Camping, Boat Launch
24.	Liberty Township	State	Old 131 Bridge Campground and Canoe Camp	10 acres	Camping, Boat Launch
25.	Liberty Township	State	Casey Jones Roadside Park	15 acres	Picnic Sites
94.	Liberty Township	Private	Chippewa Landing	50 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Canoe Livery
38.	Selma Township	Twp.	Pleasant Lake Park	.3 acre	Picnic Sites, Swimming
39.	Selma Township	Private	Hiawatha Beach Boat Launch	1.2 acres	Boat Launch
40.	Selma Township	Private	Flowing Wells Boat Launch	.3 acre	Boat Launch, Picnic Sites
41.	Selma Township	Private	Boyd Park Boat Launch	.1 acre	Boat Launch, Picnic Sites
42.	Selma Township	Private	Sunny Shores Park Boat Launch	.2 acre	Boat Launch, Picnic Sites
52.	Selma Township	CAPS	Camp Torenta	160 acres	Picnic Sites, Ball Diamond, Tennis Courts, Archery Shoot,

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Outdoor Recreation Site	Size	Description of Facilities Available
					Swimming, Fishing, Hiking Trails, Nature Study Trails, Basketball Court
79.	Selma Township	Private	Woodward Lake Association	.5 acres	Picnic Sites
26.	Slagle Township	State	State Fish Hatchery	160 acres	Picnic Sites, Exhibitions
27.	Slagle Township	State	Julius Becker Roadside Park	4 acres	Picnic Sites
44.	Slagle Township	Twp	Slagle Township Park	5 acres	Horseshoe Pits, Ball Diamonds, Picnic Sites, Volleyball
80.	Slagle Township	Private	Slagle Club	160 acres	Fishing, Hunting
81.	Slagle Township South Branch Twp.	Private	Sands Creek Club	80 acres	Hunting
5.	South Branch Twp	USA	Peterson Bridge South Camping Area	11 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Fishing, Canoe Launch
6.	South Branch Twp	USA	Peterson Bridge North Canoe Access & Camping Area	10 acres	Boat Launch, Picnic Sites, Fishing
7.	South Branch Twp	USA	Dodson Bridge Canoe Landing	10 acres	Boat Launch, Picnic Sites, Fishing
9.	South Branch Twp.	Private	McKenzie Trail U.S. Forest Service	4.5 acres	Cross Country Ski Trail
10.	South Branch Twp.	Private	Caberfae Peaks Ski Area	58 acres	Ski Runs, Golf Course
11.	Slagle Twp.	Private	Caberfae Tennis Ranch	2 acres	Tennis Courts
95.	South Branch Twp.	Private	Kestelwood Campground	28 acres	Camping, Swimming, Children's Play Equipment
96.	Springville Township	USA	Seaton Creek Picnic Area and Campground	12 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Boating, Nature Study Trail
28.	Springville Township	State	Hodenpyl Backwater Scenic Turnout	2 acres	Picnic Sites
29.	Springville Township		Mesick Wildlife Sanctuary	785 acres	Fishing, Nature Study Trail
45.	Springville Township	Private	Mesick Campground	95 acres	Camping, Picnic Sites, Swimming, Boat Launch, Fishing, Nature Study Trail
46.	Springville Township		Mesick Memorial Park	2 acres	Picnic Sites, Fishing
84.	Springville Township	Church	United Jewish Charities	40 acres	Camping
99.	Village of Buckley	Village	Buckley-Hanover Activities Center	1 acre	Basketball, Tennis/ Shuffleboard
67.	Village of Buckley	School	Community School	5 acres	Ball Diamonds,

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Outdoor Recreation Site	Size	Description of Facilities Available
					Organized sports Field, Children's Play Equipment
68.	Village of Harrietta	Village	Harrietta Community Park	.3 acres	Children's Play Equipment
69.	Village of Mesick	Village	Mesick Community Park	5.7 acres	Ball diamonds, Tennis/Shuffleboard, Basketball/ Horseshoes, Children's Play Equipment
30.	Wexford Township	State	Keith Baguley Roadside Park	3 acres	Picnic Sites
97.	Wexford Township	Private	Miltner's Canoe Camp	40 acres	Camping, Boat Launch

A map of the outdoor recreation facilities is shown on Appendix J.

**LIST OF INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES**

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Indoor Recreation Site	Description of Facilities Available
1.	Antioch Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
2.	Boon Township	Twp.	Township Hall	Meeting Room
52.	Boon Township	Private	Lost Pine Lodge	Swimming
3.	Cedar Creek Township	Twp.	Township Hall	Meeting Room
41.	Cedar Creek Township	Private	Manton Snow Devil's Snowmobile Club	Meeting Room, Kitchen
4.	Cherry Grove Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
5.	Henderson Township	CAPS	Forest View Elementary School	Gym, Meeting Rooms
53.	Cherry Grove Township	Private	Caberfae Lanes	Bowling, Billiards
55.	Cherry Grove Township	Private	Best Western of Cadillac	Swimming Pool
54.	Cherry Grove Township	Private	The Pines	Bowling , Billiards, Dancing, Darts/ Video Game Room
17.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Senior Citizen's Center	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
18.	City of Cadillac		Cadillac-Wexford Public Library	Library, Meeting Room
19.	City of Cadillac	City	Municipal Complex	Meeting Room
20.	City of Cadillac	County	County Courthouse	Meeting Room
21.	City of Cadillac	Private	Kirtland Terrace	Meeting Room
63.	City of Cadillac	Private	Parkview Lanes	Bowling, Billiards
22.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Senior High School	Gyms, Meeting Rooms, Library, Auditorium, Cafeteria
23.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Junior High School	Gym, Meeting Rooms, Cafeteria
26.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Kenwood Elementary	Gym, Meeting Room

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Indoor Recreation Site	Description of Facilities Available
			School	
27.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	McKinley Elementary School	Gym, Meeting Room
28.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Lincoln Elementary School	Gym, Meeting Room
29.	City of Cadillac	CAPS	Franklin Elementary School	Gym, Meeting Room
30.	City of Cadillac	Church	St. Ann's Elementary School	Gym, Meeting Room
31.	City of Cadillac		Wexford County	Museum
45.	City of Cadillac		American Legion Post	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
46.	City of Cadillac		Elk's Lodge	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
48.	City of Cadillac		Amvets Post	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
47.	City of Cadillac		Fifth-Third Bank	All Purpose Room
60.	City of Cadillac		Footlites	Theater
61.	City of Cadillac		Cinema 5	Theater
62.	City of Cadillac		Cadillac Sands	Swimming Pool, Dancing
32.	City of Manton	City	Municipal	Meeting Room
33.	City of Manton		Senior Citizen's Center	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
34.	City of Manton	Schools	Community School	Gym, Auditorium
35.	City of Manton	City	Manton Area Museum	Museum
49.	City of Manton		Citizens Bank	All Purpose Room
50.	City of Manton		VFW Post	All Purpose Room
	City of Manton	Private	Northern Valley Lanes	Bowling, Billiards
6.	Clam Lake Township	Twp.	Township Hall	Meeting Room
56.	Clam Lake Township	Private	McGuire's Resort	Swimming Pool
57.				
65.	Clam Lake Township	Private	Pine Grove Racquetball Club	Racquetball, Swimming, Organized Sports, Activities, Exercise Equipment.
7.	Colfax Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
8.	Greenwood Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
10.	Haring Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Rooms, Kitchen
9.	Haring Township	County	Wexford Civic Arena	Gym, All Purpose Room, Kitchen, Indoor Tennis
42.	Haring Township	Church	Knights of Columbus	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
43.	Haring Township	Private	Moose Lodge	All Purpose Room, Kitchen
44.	Haring Township		Chemical Bank West	All Purpose Room
	Haring Township	YMCA	Cadillac Area YMCA	Swimming Pool, Gym, Youth

No.	Location	Owner	Name of Indoor Recreation Site	Description of Facilities Available
				Center, Exercise Equipment.
11.	Henderson Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room
12.	Liberty Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room
13.	Selma Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
59.	Selma Township	Private	Skate On Skating Center	Roller Skating
14.	Slagle Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room, Kitchen
15.	South Branch Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room
36.	Village of Buckley	Village	Community Building	Meeting Room, Kitchen
37.	Village of Buckley	School	Community School	Gym, Meeting Rooms
38.	Village of Harrietta	Village	Community Building	All Purpose Room, Billiards, Kitchen
39.	Village of Mesick	Village	Town Hall	Meeting Room
40.	Village of Mesick	School	Community School	Gym, Auditorium
51.	Village of Mesick		Citizens Bank	All Purpose Room
16.	Wexford Township	Twp	Township Hall	Meeting Room

A map of the indoor recreational facilities is shown on Appendix K.

**SPECIAL AND UNIQUE AREAS**

Wexford County was inventoried for identification of habitats, endangered species, archaeological sites, historic sites, cultural amenities, scenic areas, land type associations, landforms, geology, and hydrology. Then various organizations were contacted: Cadillac Area Conservancy, Cedar Creek Township Zoning Board, Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University Extension Wexford Office, Michigan State [historic] Register List, National Historic Register List, Natural Features Inventory, Natural Resources Conservation Service Wexford Office, United States Forest Service, Wexford County Historical Society, and Wexford County Planning Department. The result was a list of special and unique areas in Wexford County:

- 1HER Big Manistee River (including Pine River)
- 2ESR Briar Hills
- 3ERT Caberfae Hills
- 4ERT Long Lake
- 5ET Pine River Experimental Forest
- 6ET Olga Lake (centered in Lake County)
- 7E Thousand Acre Swamp (a.k.a. Brandy Brook Waterfowl Area, Mitchell Creek Waterfowl Area)
- 8E Heritage-Cadillac Nature Study
- 9E Wheatland-Mystic Area
- 10E North Branch Pine River Swamp
- 11T Wheeler-Anderson Area
- 12T Greenwood Area
- 13T Chase Creek Area
- 14T Stoddard Lake Area
- 15T Briar Hills Area

- 16S White Pine Trail (former rail road grade)
- 17S Caberfae Highway (M-55) (No. 25 Rd to M-37)
- 18S W 40 Road (S 13 (Caberfae) Road to S 23 Road)
- 19S S & N 17 Road (W 30 Road (Coates Highway) to W 24 Road)
- 20S W 38 Road (S 15½ Road to S 11¼ (Caberfae) Road)
- 21S S 49 Road (Seeley Road) (E 48 (McBaine) Road to E 52 (County Line) Road)
- 22S E 22 & E 20½ Roads (N 33 to N 39 Roads)
- 23S S 13 Road & 11¼ Road (Caberfae Road, Old State Highway) (W 48 (Hoxeyville) Road to W 32 Road)
- 24S N 17 Road & W 10 Road & N 19 Road (W 6 to ¾ mile north of W 14 Road)
- 25E Adams Creek
- 26E Slagle Creek
- 27E Arquilla Creek
- 28E Pine River tributaries (Dowling, Poplar, and Hoxey Creeks)
- 29E Manton (Cedar) Creek
- 30H Cadillac City Hall (201 North Mitchell Street, Cadillac.)
- 31H Cobbs, Frank J. House (407 East Chapin Street, Cadillac)
- 32H Elks Temple Building (122 South Mitchell Street, Cadillac.)
- 33H Masonic Temple Building (122-126 North Mitchell Street, Cadillac)
- 34H Mitchell, Charles T., House. (118 North Shelby Street, Cadillac.)
- 35H Shay Locomotive. (Cass Street, in the city park, Cadillac.)
- 36H Cadillac Public Library (127 Beech Street, half block east of Mitchell Street, Cadillac.)
- 37H Clam Lake Canal (Northeast of 6093 M-115, Cadillac.)
- 38H Cobbs and Mitchell, Inc. Building (100 East Chapin, west of Mitchell Street, Cadillac.)
- 39H Greenwood Disciples of Christ Church (7303 North 35 Road, Greenwood Township.)
- 40H Manton Fire Barn and City Hall (Southeast corner of West Main and State Street, Manton.)
- 41H Cadillac Historic District
- 42H Harrietta Fish Hatchery
- 43H Coates Highway (W 30 Road, S 23 Road, W and E 34 Road (Boon Road).
- 42 [Not Mapped] Buckley farm area, Southeast Cadillac farm area

A map of the Special and Unique areas is shown on Appendix M.

## **HISTORIC SITES**

A new and steadily increasing activity for many Americans on vacation is the visitation of sites of historical significance. Although the recent growth in this pastime is due primarily to more leisure time and a rise in prosperity, the trend is based on our culture. The increasing emphasis on historic preservation at the State and Federal levels suggests that Americans are beginning to value their history. Our society may be starting to develop a sense of history similar to that held by most Europeans.

Three fundamentals are required for all historic attractions. First, they must protect the basic values - the land, the artifacts, the structures - from alterations which erode or destroy significance and interest. Secondly, they will most often require restoration to simulation to recapture the essence of the historic event. Finally they must be given interpretation. All media necessary to communicate with visitors the significance, character, and interest of the historic event should be employed.



There are not many designated historic sites in Wexford county. (See Appendix L). Two locations are classified as Michigan Historic Sites (MHS) and five are listed in the Historic American Engineering Record (HAERS) compiled in 1976 for the office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service. A number of other sites have a significant place in the history of the county and should be nominated for designation by the History Division of the Michigan Department of State.

For more detail on each site connect to the Internet site <http://www.state.mi.us/mdos/michsite/srchsitesite.cfm?T=24758>.

#### National Register list

- ⑩ **Cadillac City Hall** (P25397) 201 North Mitchell Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Cobbs, Frank J. House** (P25401) 407 East Chapin Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Elks Temple Building** (P25402) 122 South Mitchell Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Masonic Temple Building** (P3518) 122-126 North Mitchell Street, Cadillac
- ⑩ **Mitchell, Charles T., House.** (P25404) 118 North Shelby Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Shay Locomotive.** (P25405) Cass Street, in the city park, Cadillac.

#### State Register Listed

- ⑩ **Battle of Manton informational designation** (P25406) Rotary Park on U.S.-131 south of Griswald Street, Manton.
- ⑩ **Caberfae Ski Resort Company informational site** (P25410) Caberfae Road, South Branch Township.
- ⑩ **Cadillac Public Library** (P25398) 127 Beech Street, half block east of Mitchell Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Clam Lake Canal** (P25403) Northeast of 6093 M-115, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Cobbs and Mitchell Mill No. 1 site** (P25399) 329 South Street at Lake Cadillac, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **Cobbs and Mitchell, Inc. Building** (P25400) 100 East Chapin, west of Mitchell Street, Cadillac.
- ⑩ **First Wexford County Courthouse site** (P25411) Northwest corner of State and Manistee Streets, (M-37 and West No. 14 Road), Sherman (Wexford Township).
- ⑩ **Greenwood Disciples of Christ Church** (P25408) 7303 North 35 Road, Greenwood Township.
- ⑩ **Manton Fire Barn and City Hall** (P25407) Southeast corner of West Main and State Street, Manton.

#### County Historic List

- ⑩ **Indian Trail** from Lake Cadillac to Grand Traverse Bay.
- ⑩ **Site of First School in Wexford County, Cornell-District #1 1865-1945.** Northwest corner of W. 4 Road and N. 11 Road, Section 2 of Wexford Township.
- ⑩ **Site of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp Axin (Camp # 1661) 1933-1942.** About 0.3 miles west of S. 25 Road on the south side of Caberfae Highway (M-55), Section 13, Henderson Township.
- ⑩ **Hoxeyvill's first Post Office, "Clay Hill."** July 20, 1870-November 20, 1878 located in the Henderson House. Section 6/7, Henderson Township.
- ⑩ **Harrietta Fish Hatchery**
- ⑩ **Coates Highway** (W 30 Road, S 23 Road, W and E 34 Road (Boon Road)).

#### Municipality Historic List



- Ⓢ **Cadillac Central Residential Area** being studied as a possible state/federal historic district.

### **BARRIER FREE COMPLIANCE OF RECREATION FACILITIES**

The following Acts are listed in the Community Recreation Plan Guideline IC 1924 (Rev. 12/01/2000) p. A3

- Ⓢ The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, ABA, (P.L. 90-489)
- Ⓢ Section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-112)
- Ⓢ Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-112)
- Ⓢ Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS)
- Ⓢ The American with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Ⓢ The Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act (Act 220 of 1976) , as amended 1990.

Wexford County is aware of the guidelines that are required by barrier free laws and regulations. The Wexford County Courthouse and Wexford County Civic Arena, are handicapped accessible. As facilities are constructed, remodeled or improved, they will be brought into compliance with the above referenced acts.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS**

Wexford County is taking a regional planning approach in preparing this recreation plan. Wexford County does not operate a county parks system; many of the townships, villages, and cities in the county operate their own parks and campgrounds. However, it is recognized by the county that the locally operated facilities bring in visitors from throughout the county and also tourists from downstate and other states. For this reason, the purpose of this plan is to look at the recreation needs for local residents and visitors of Wexford County. The process for updating this plan formally began late in 2012, but the process for gathering input on the recreational needs of the county has been ongoing for the past several years, as described in this chapter.

## **PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS**

### **2013 Recreation Survey**

In conjunction with the public information meetings held throughout Wexford County in February 2013, a one-page survey was distributed to local officials and the general public and is shown in Appendix N of this plan. A total of twenty-three (23) surveys were returned as of this writing. The following findings are noted:

- 20 respondents were year-round residents, the rest were visitors of Wexford County.
- Most of the respondents and families (36 out of 44) were age 40 or older.
- Asked what types of recreational activity the respondent and their family partakes in, the following tallies were recorded:
 

○ 6 – Archery	○ 11 – Horseback Riding
○ 4 – Basketball	○ 11 – Hunting/Archery
○ 3 – Bicycling	○ 1 – Ice Skating
○ 8 – Boating (motorized)	○ 8 – Picnicking
○ 15 – Camping (RV)	○ 1 – Playgrounds
○ 9 – Camping (tent/rustic)	○ 11 – Running/jogging
○ 9 – Canoeing/kayaking	○ 11 – Skiing (x-country)
○ 12 – Dog Walking	○ 8 – Skiing (downhill)
○ 8 – Fishing (from boat)	○ 2 – Snowboarding
○ 5 – Fishing (dock/shore)	○ 4 – Snowmobiling
○ 1 – Hockey	○ 4 – Snowshoeing
○ 3 – Horseshoes	○ 1 – Tennis

It is the intent and desire of the Wexford County Planning Commission to distribute the Recreation Survey to local businesses and trade groups in the county over the coming years to gather input on a continuing basis for use in future recreation plan updates and use a collection system to gather responses.

### **2000 Phone Survey**

THE Wexford County Planning Department contracted with Central Michigan University Center for Applied Research and Rural Studies to conduct a survey<sup>13</sup> of residents in Wexford

<sup>13</sup>Hill, James P., Dr. and Mary Senter; *Report of Findings Wexford County Residents' Views of Land Use Planning and the Quality of Life; A study Prepared for the Wexford County Commission*; Central

County in fall of 2000. The purpose of the survey was to determine the opinions of permanent residents of Wexford County, age 21 and over, regarding land use and related issues in Wexford County and was done as part of the county’s proposed land use plan to be completed in 2002. The “Opinion Survey on Cultural Quality of Life” is presented in this section.

The presentation format for the findings of the survey is composed of both narrative and tabular material. It is found throughout this document where the respective topic is discussed. The narrative statements include references to a mean or average value. The survey method used allows statistical statements to be made about the survey results with a 95% confidence level at a degree of accuracy of ±5%.

**Opinion Survey on the Quality of Life**

Residents have differing opinions about what is needed for enhancing life in the county. A series of questions in the interview schedule asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with a number of “new initiatives being proposed in the county.” Most of these initiatives in one way or the other focus on ways in which the quality of life in the county could be improved for its residents. The format of these questions is to have interviewers read a statement to respondents and then ask them whether they “strongly agree,” “agree,” “disagree,” or “strongly disagree” with it. The following table summarizes residents’ responses to this some of these questions. The initiatives that receive the most support are listed first and those with the least support are listed last.

**Level of Agreement with New Initiatives Being Proposed to Improve the Quality of Life: Percentage Distributions and Means**

	<i>Mean</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
More activities for teenagers	1.71	41.3	44.3	11.9	0.5	2.0
Better coordination of city/county planning	1.68	36.7	53.1	5.2	0.5	4.5
More activities for children	1.90	31.9	43.1	19.3	1.5	4.2
More land as “open space”	1.97	28.2	43.8	21.0	2.2	4.7
More cultural enrichment	1.94	21.0	56.7	13.6	0.7	7.9
More parks	2.24	15.8	42.1	35.6	1.5	5.0
More recreational access to lakes	2.42	11.4	34.4	45.3	3.0	5.9

Generally speaking, more than one half of residents express some level of agreement with the new initiatives being proposed. However, the differing levels of support expressed by respondents suggest the clustering of new initiatives into four groups. The highest level of support is found for providing new activities for teenagers 13 to 18 years old and for improving city/county planning. More than 40 percent of respondents “strongly agree” that “the county needs to provide more activities for teenagers 13 to 18 years old,” and another 44 percent simply “agree.” Similarly, more than 35 percent of residents “strongly agree” that “the City of Cadillac and Wexford County should better coordinate their planning efforts,” and

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Michigan University Center for Applied Research and Rural Studies; Mt. Pleasant; December 2000.

another 53 percent of residents “agree” with this statement.

Between about 20 and 30 percent of respondents also “strongly agree” to each of these statements:

1. “The county needs to provide more activities for children 12 years and younger;”
2. “More land in the county should be set aside to remain as ‘open space’—that is, space that is not developed;”
3. “More opportunities for cultural enrichment need to be provided in the county.”

However, in each case, the percentage of respondents *disagreeing* with the statement is between about 15 and 20 percent.

Support for more parks, and more recreational lake access is relatively low. Less than 20 percent of respondents “strongly agree” that “more parks are needed in the county, and that “there is a need for more access to lakes for recreational purposes.” More than one third of residents disagree that there is a need for more parks; and almost one half of residents disagree that more access to lakes for recreation is needed.

To gain a better sense of residents’ thinking on a few of these initiatives, residents’ favoring a change were asked an open-ended follow-up question. In particular, respondents who agreed that there should be more cultural enrichment opportunities were asked: “What kinds of opportunities for cultural enrichment would you like to see?” A similar question was asked to residents who favored more activities for children and more activities for teenagers.

These open-ended responses were coded into a series of discrete categories. The categories as well as the frequency and percentage of respondents coded in each are found in the following tables. The complete texts of responses, as recorded by interviewers, are found in Appendix C of the survey report. The appendix is organized so that responses appear by question and then by the code categories found in the table.

**Responses to Open-Ended Questions about Ways of Improving Aspects of the Quality of Life: Code Categories, Frequency and Percentage Distributions**

***Suggestions for Increasing Cultural Enrichment*<sup>14</sup>**

Category	Number	Percentage
Theater	69	22
Music	68	22
Art	41	13
Museums	34	11
Educational Activity	16	5
Other	81	26
Don't know/No Response	106	34

<sup>14</sup>Percentages based on N=314. Any one respondent’s comment may be coded into more than one category. Consequently, percentages will not equal 100%.

*Suggestions for Increasing Activities for Teenagers<sup>15</sup>*

Category	Number	Percentage
Teen/Youth center for activities	93	27
Recreation/Activities	80	23
New, different, or more facilities	43	12
Sports, games, competitions	39	11
Cultural/educational activities	20	6
Other	74	21
Don't know	77	22

*Suggestions for Increasing Activities for Children<sup>16</sup>*

Category	Number	Percentage
New, different, or more facilities	74	24
Recreational/Activities	74	24
Center/Place for activities	53	17
Sports, games, competition	33	11
Cultural/educational activities	20	7
After school activities	8	3
Other	46	15
Don't know	76	25

Respondents who favored increasing cultural opportunities in the county were most likely to want to see more musical events, followed by more exposure to art and to museums.

Residents interested in more activities for teenagers were especially likely to suggest the development of a teen or youth center. A number of these respondents suggested creating a YMCA. Residents also mentioned the need for more recreational activities. Specific suggestions ran the gamut from “teen dances” to “arcades” and “game rooms.”

Suggestions for enhancing activities for children emphasized the need for more facilities for different types of activities. Suggestions for such new facilities included “playgrounds,” “rollerblading places,” “skating rinks,” and a “swimming pool.” A number of residents simply mentioned the types of recreational activities that they would like to see for children in the county. Examples from respondents include: “arts and crafts,” “outdoor activities,” “movies,” “camps,” and “holiday parties.” Finally, near the end of the survey interview, all respondents were asked a simple, open-ended question dealing with the quality of life in the county. In particular, they were asked: “What do you believe is the most important issue affecting the quality of life in Wexford County.” CARRS staff engaged in a similar process to code these responses into categories. A summary of the categories and the responses is found in the

<sup>15</sup>Percentages based on N=346. Any one respondent’s comment may be coded into more than one category. Consequently, percentages will not equal 100%.

<sup>16</sup>Percentages based on N=303. Any one respondent’s comment may be coded into more than one category. Consequently, percentages will not equal 100%.

following table.

**Responses to Open-Ended Question about Most Important Issue Affecting the Quality of Life: Code Categories, Frequency and Percentage Distributions**

Category	Number	Percentage
Environmental issues	83	21
Economic issues	55	14
Governmental issues	42	10
Number of people/Growth	38	9
Education/Schools	23	6
Issues regarding youth	19	5
Healthcare issues	16	4
Other	68	17
Don't know/Not sure	91	23

Respondents—more than 20 percent of them—mention issues related to the environment as the “most important issue” affecting the quality of life in the county. Examples of responses included in this category are: “preserving our natural resources,” “burning tires should not be allowed,”<sup>17</sup> “water and air needs to stay clean,” and “wildlife and environment—needs to be kept northern feeling.”

More than 10 percent of respondents also consider one of a number of economic issues to be critical to the quality of life. For example, one respondent noted that “career opportunities are not available in the area.” Another stated that “so much land has become commercialized—so that people with low incomes now have no places to go because that land has been sold for commercial reasons.” Still another noted the “low wage scale.”

About 10 percent of residents in the sample also considered an issue related to the operation of government (including governmental regulations and law enforcement) to be “most important.” One respondent said that the most important issues affecting the quality of life is “having a well thought out and researched plan for growth.” Another respondent was concerned about “the increased crime rate.” Yet another respondent simply noted that there is “no money, no funds for anything—roads, schools, everything.”

No other category contained responses from more than 10 percent of members of the sample.

Respondents were also asked a general question about their preferences for growth and change in the county. Residents were asked to speculate about whether the quality of life in Wexford County would “increase, decrease, or stay about the same over the next 10 years.” The following table shows that residents are relatively optimistic, with more than one half expecting an increase in the quality of life, more than 30 percent expecting no particular change, and only 10 percent anticipating an decrease.

<sup>17</sup>At the time of the survey, the issue of tire burning at Cadillac Energy Inc., without scrubber stack pollution control equipment, was a politically hot issue in the Cadillac area.

**Opinions about Growth and Change:**

**Percentage Distributions**

	Increase	Decrease	Stay the Same	Don't Know
Expectation about quality of life in county over 10 years	54.0	10.1	32.4	3.5

Support for protecting and enhancing historic structures took third place (behind protecting groundwater and protecting lakes and rivers) in the survey of Wexford Residents.

**Level of Support for Measures to Guide Land Use and Environmental Protection: Percentage Distributions and Means**

	Mean	Strongly Favor	Favor	Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know
Designating and protecting sites of historical or cultural interest	1.65	37.6	56.4	3.0	0.5	2.5

Support for protecting sites of historical/cultural interest, is reasonably high, although the percentage of residents who “strongly favor” each of these measures is less than the percentage strongly favoring the protection of water quality in the county. Roughly one third of respondents “strongly favor” “designating and protecting sites of historical or cultural interest.”

**Public Opinion Survey Results**

In support of the Recreation Plan Advisory Committees recommendations, the Wexford County Planning Department contracted with the Central Michigan University Center for Applied Research and Rural Studies to conduct a survey of residents in Wexford County in the Fall of 2000. The survey entitled *Report of Findings Wexford County Residents, Views of Land Use Planning and the Quality of Life, December 2000*, was done as part of the County’s proposed Land Use Plan. In the Opinion Survey of the report on the *Quality of Life, Needs in the County*, more than 40 percent of respondents “strongly agree” that the county needs to provide more activities for teenagers 13 to 18 years old and another 44 percent “agree”. Between 20 and 30 percent of the respondents also “strongly agree” to provide more “activities for children 12 years and younger”. Suggestions in the survey included, “need for more recreational activities”, “teen or youth center” “community pool”, “rollerblading/skateboard places”, “organized sports” “including baseball leagues”, and “basketball” and “playgrounds”. In a public survey entitled *Greater Cadillac YMCA Survey Report Summary* by Gary L. Unruh, Consultant, June 2000, when asked “What is the most needed facility in the community”? The highest percentage of support was for a “swimming pool” and “teen center”.

**2004 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Wexford County Master Plan was adopted in 2004 after an extensive public involvement process. Some of the key recreation priorities outlined in the Master Plan include:

- Development of a multi-use trail system throughout the county.
- Development of tourist-oriented parks, campgrounds and similar facilities.



- Preservation of lands available for hunting and fishing.
- Expansion and development of parks and recreation facilities for area residents.

### **PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS**

In December, 2012, elected officials from each of the sixteen township, three villages, and two cities were notified that Wexford County was beginning the process of updating its Recreation Plan. Public input meetings were held at various locations as follows:

- Wexford County Services Building in Cadillac – Wednesday, January 9, 2013
  - Mesick High School Library in Mesick – Wednesday, February 7, 2013
  - Manton High School Library in Manton – Wednesday, February 13, 2013
  - South Branch Township Hall – Wednesday, February 27, 2013
- (All meetings started at 6:30 pm and lasted around 1-2 hours)

Each of the public input meetings involved a brainstorming session involving members of the public to determine recreation priorities and to establish a list of projects that would meet the goals and objectives established in this plan. After the public review period, the Wexford County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on the proposed Recreation Plan on March 20, 2013. A notice of each public meeting with a request for public participation, was published in the local newspaper and invitations were sent to all township officers, city and village officers. In addition to establishing the recreational priorities to be included in the updated plan, proposed funding sources were also discussed.



## **RECREATION ISSUES, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES**

The goals and objectives established below are a result of the public input sessions in 2013, the results of the 2013 Recreation Survey, the Wexford County Master Plan recreation priorities, and results of the 2001 Wexford County Public Opinion Survey. More generally, the primary goals and objectives revolve around the need to provide recreation to local residents and to also provide recreational facilities that promote and enhance tourism in Wexford County. Traditionally, people have long been attracted to the area's natural resources and have engaged in such activities as hunting, fishing, downhill skiing, snowmobiling, and other related activities. Such visitors to the area are known to spend millions of dollars per year in local hotels, restaurants, and other businesses. Much of the existing recreational facilities in Wexford County (trails, campgrounds, parks, etc.) have been developed to accommodate visitors to the area, as well as provide recreation to local residents. Most of the goals and objectives shown below continue in this tradition.

Several issues were brought to light at our input sessions, including the following:

- The railroad trestle over the Manistee River near Mesick is still owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation, not the Department of Natural Resources, leaving a gap in the existing trail network. Affected parties were encouraged to contact their state representatives to request that a land sale/transfer be facilitated so that the trestle may be repaired for snowmobile traffic. A representative of an area snowmobile group indicated that there were private funds available to repair the structure.
- Wexford County recently adopted a ORV (off-road vehicle) Ordinance that allows ORV's on all county roads. However, there are portions of county roads that pass through United States Forest Service (USFS) lands; portions of these segments are on county road right-of-way and others aren't. Because the county road right-of-way through these areas are segmented, ORV riders can be ticketed by the USFS if they are on a portion of a county road without a right-of-way. Possible solutions discussed include the following:
  - Encourage the Wexford County Road Commission (WCRC) and the USFS to form a partnership to provide a detailed map of county road segments that are not on county right-of-way and subject to USFS regulations and also provide signage indicating locations along county roads where ORV use is not allowed.
  - Encourage the USFS to provide adequate right-of-way to the WCRC along affected county roads so that ORV use may be allowed.

**Goal #1: Providing indoor recreation facilities that are available to all residents and are operated on a year-round basis.**

**Objective: Expand existing public or non-profit indoor multi-use recreation facilities and/or build new facilities that are open to all county residents on a year-round basis.**

1. Upgrade the Civic Center and Ice Arena Complex at the Wexford County Fairgrounds to support existing usage and to support increased usage of the facility. This complex is owned by Wexford County and is funded through a combination of user fees and county general funds.
2. Develop restrooms and other amenities at the Wexford County Fairgrounds for use by campers and the public. The current restrooms located under the grandstands are in

need of repairs and are not ADA compliant.

**Goal #2: Expansion of the multi-use trail network in Wexford County to bring in more tourism dollars**

**Objective: Construct new trails and upgrade trails and trail crossings to connect with the existing network and to existing commerce centers in Wexford County.**

1. Construct a new multi-use trail way along dedicated right-of-way of US-131 Bypass to link the White Pine Trail on the south to the Mish-Kal trail on the north.
2. Extend the Clam River Greenway through the CASA All-Sports Complex along the Clam River to the US 131 Bypass and proposed Bypass Trail way. This trail will link the proposed Bypass trail to the existing segment of the Clam River Greenway that runs from the CASA All-Sports Complex on the north to Lake Cadillac and the Keith McKellop Walkway on the south.
3. Construct a loop trail connecting the North Country Trail to the Village of Mesick.
4. Rehabilitate the MDOT-owned former Ann Arbor railroad trestle over the Manistee River just west of the Village of Mesick to close the gap on the existing trail between Mesick (Yuma) and Frankfort.
5. Develop a multi-use trail along S. Mitchell Street (Business US-131) from the Cadillac south city limits to the intersection of S. 43 Road and E. 46 ½ Road near Harmony Hills subdivision to connect residential, commercial, and office uses in Clam Lake Township to Cadillac's downtown area.
6. Provide a separate network of horseback riding trails through Wexford County with connections to existing statewide trail networks, including the Shore-to-Shore Hiking and Horseback Riding trail.

**Goal #3: Providing outdoor recreation facilities that are available to residents and visitors and promote tourism in Wexford County.**

**Objective: Expand existing public or non-profit outdoor multi-use recreation facilities and/or build new facilities that will serve local recreation needs and provide access to natural resources.**

- 1) Construct a new boat launch facility at Little Cove on Lake Mitchell at the Selma Township Park. The current boat launch at this site is in poor condition and does not comply with current MDEQ design standards.
- 2) Construct a multi-use regional park facility at Diggin's Hill in the City of Cadillac.
- 3) Construct various improvements at the Lester Barnes Memorial Park and Campground at Dayhuff Lake (Lake Meauwataka) in Colfax Township. The current campground lacks a bathing facility and modern plumbing and electrical service. The current swimming beach parking lot does not accommodate the number of visitors that use the facility in summer months and lacks a bathing facility with modern plumbing and electrical service. This township park facility functions more as a "county park" as it serves residents of the Cadillac, Mesick, and Manton areas. Proposed improvements include the following:
  - a) Relocate and expand the parking lot away from the lake to minimize potential runoff of oils and gases into the water and to accommodate existing and future vehicle traffic.
  - b) Construct a new bathhouse between the campground and beach with flush toilets and

- showers and space for concessions or vending machines.
- c) Reconstruct and expand the campground to provide recreational vehicle sites with electric and water service. All driveways and parking pads are to be asphalt-surfaced.
  - d) Construct a gatehouse at the entrance to the park.
  - e) Develop nature trails that would link the campground and day-use areas to other areas of the park and to adjacent US Forest Service lands.
- 4) Develop a target shooting range on existing county, state, or federal land in an area of Wexford County with adequate isolation distance from occupied structures.

**ACTION PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE**

**PROPOSED RECREATION PROJECTS**

The following Table is keyed to the Action Plan Map and is based on the State's recreation standards, public comment received and input at workshops and public hearings.

<b><u>Map Key</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Year Planned</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Cost</u></b>	<b><u>Sources</u></b>
1	Various upgrades to the “Wex” Indoor Ice Arena and Civic Center	2013-15	\$75,000.00	County Funds, User Fees, Donations, TF, LWCF
2	Business US-131 Trail in Clam Lake Township	2013-17	\$200,000	MDNR, MDOT, Various local matches
3	Develop the Diggin’s Hill Park into a Regional Recreation Area	2013-17	To Be Determined	City of Cadillac, TF, LWCF
4	Upgrade of boat launch on Lake Mitchell in Selma Township	2013-14	\$50,000	TF, LWCF, Township Match.
5	US-131 Bypass Multi-use Trail from 43 Road/Mitchell Street to 10 Road.	2013-14	\$3,000,000	TEA-21, DOT, County, Donations from various trail groups.
6	Clam River Greenway from CASA All-Sports Complex to Proposed US-131 Bypass Trail	2013-17	\$225,000	TEA-21, DOT, County Funds, Donations from various trail groups.
7	Rehabilitation of Rails-to-trails bridge over Manistee River west of Mesick	2013-14	\$250,000	TEA-21, DOT, Donations from various trail groups.
8	Installation of a new water well and playground equipment at the Lion’s Club Park at M-115 and the Manistee River and new ballfields at the Mesick AMVETS post on M-37	2013-17	\$11,100 (Park) \$9,600 (Ballfields)	TF, LWCF
9	Lester Barnes Memorial Park (Colfax Township Park) – Upgrade and Expand Campground	2013-17	To Be Determined	Township Funds, TF, LWCF, CZM
10	Target Shooting Range- New Construction Location to be determined	2013-17	To Be Determined	TF, LWCF, Various local matches
11	Horseback Riding Trail Network Location to be determined	2013-17	To Be Determined	TF, LWCF, Various local matches.
12	Convert Phelps Brothers Warehouse (granery) in downtown Manton into community center	2013-14	\$5,200	TF, HG

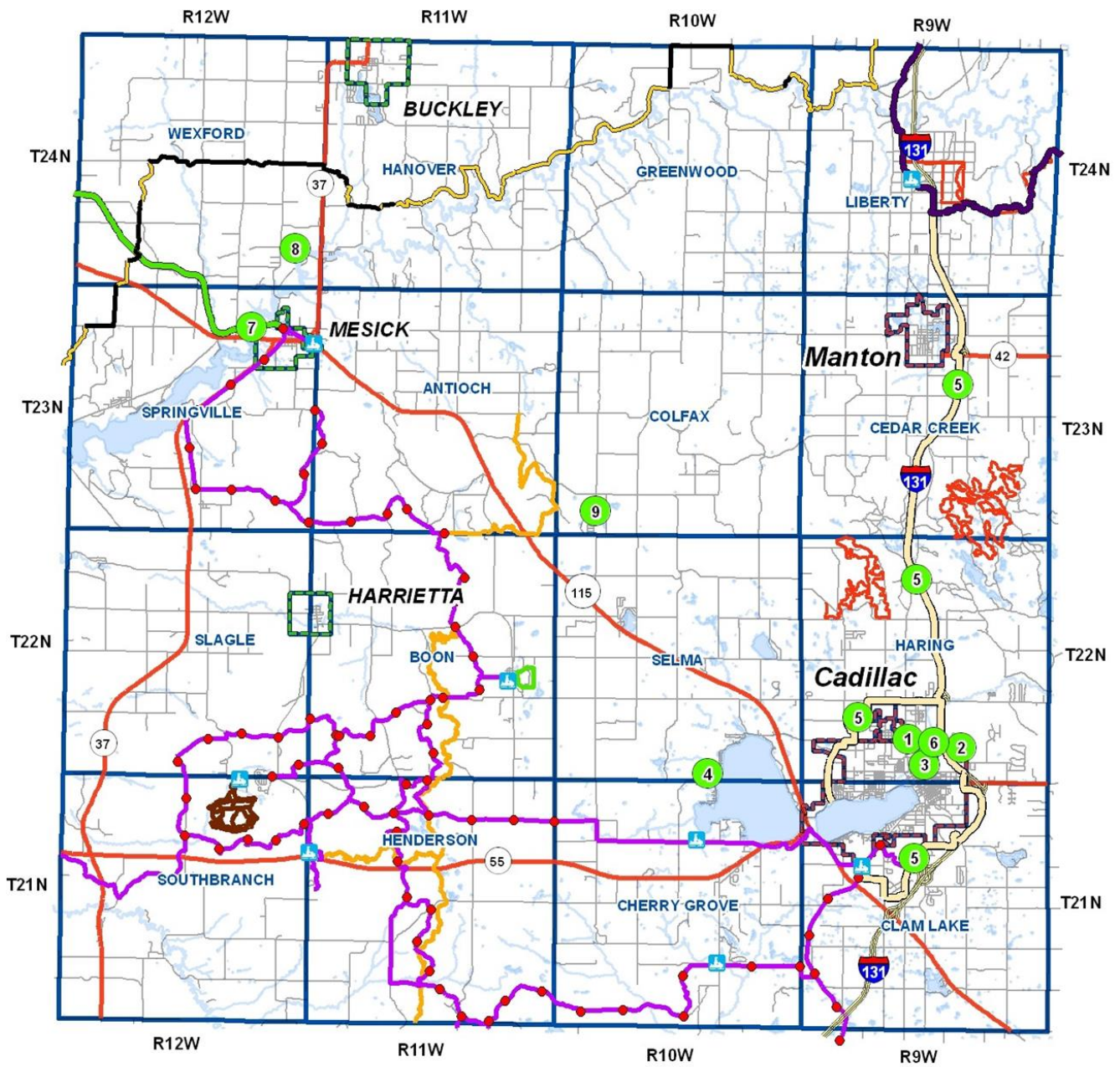
KEY TO FUNDING SOURCES (For more information, see next section):














Natural Resources Trust Fund = TF  
Land and Water Conservation Fund = LWCF  
Coastal Zone Management = CZM  
Transportation Fund = DOT  
Waterways Fund = WF  
Historic Preservation Grant = HG  
Wallop-Breaux = WB  
Council for the Arts = CA

- Note: Projects may be reviewed annually to determine status and updated accordingly.
- Note: If Projects are not funded in the year designated, they are automatically forwarded to successive year(s) as necessary until accomplished without amending the plan.



**ACTION PLAN MAP**



- Legend**
-  Trail\_Heads
  -  Trail Mile Marker
  -  Proposed Recreation Projects
  -  Mis-Kal Trail
  -  Proposed US 131 Bypass Multi-use Trail
  -  North Country Trail
  -  North Country Trail Connector
  -  Rails to Trails
  -  Snowmobile Trail
  -  Motorcycle Trail
  -  ORV Trail
  -  Cross Country/Mountain Bike Trail
  -  Recreational Trail
- \*Number correlates to the Map Key in Proposed Recreation Project list*

## **FUNDING INFORMATION**

### **STATE AND FEDERAL SOURCES:**

The following programs are the primary sources of funding available to assist with implementation of planned recreation improvements.

#### **Michigan Quality of Life Recreation Bond Program**

The Quality of Life Recreation Bond program was established through Public Act 329 of the Public Acts of 1988 as a result of passage of Proposal D in the November, 1988 elections. The objectives of the program are: community recreation, tourism development, waterfront recreation, outdoor education for intermediate school districts and local infrastructure repair. This is the first state grant which places an emphasis on support for local infrastructure needs.

#### **Land and Water Conservation Fund:**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF), created by the U.S. Congress in 1965, provides federal funds to buy land and develop facilities for outdoor recreation. The Recreation Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources administers the Michigan L&WCF Program. L&WCF Program application forms are available February 1 of each year. The pre-application submission deadline is April 1 of each year.

Michigan's L&WCF allocation is available to the state and local units of government in the form of grants for specific projects. L&WCF funds pay half the cost of State and local projects. To be eligible for grants, Michigan local units must prepare a DNR-approved community recreation plan.

L&WCF projects are selected for funding on the basis of a Federally-approved Open Project Selection Process (OPSP). In Michigan, all projects, including State projects, compete according to criteria based in large part on the Michigan Recreation Plan.

#### **Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund:**

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) replaced the Michigan Land Trust Fund on October 1, 1985. Starting in 1986, recreation land acquisition and development proposals were eligible for MNRTF funding. Between 15 and 25 percent of the annual fund expenditure will be for development. The MNRTF Program receives revenue from oil, gas, and other mineral development on State-owned lands. The Governor appoints a five-member board to administer the fund. The MDNR Recreation Division provides staff support to the MNRTF Board.

MNRTF proposal forms are available on February 1 of each year. The proposal submission deadline is April 1 of each year. Any individual, group, organization, or unit of government may submit a land acquisition proposal; but only units of government, including the state, can take title to and manage the land. Units of government can submit development proposals for local grants and must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project costs. Only one proposal per year may be submitted. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects; for development projects the minimum funding is \$15,000; the maximum is \$375,000. Proposals must be for outdoor recreation purposes.

**Non-Motorized Transportation Fund:**

Counties, cities, and villages receive funding through the Michigan Department of Transportation which is generated from gasoline sales taxes and license plate fees. Agencies receiving these funds are obligated to spend an average of one percent per year over a ten-year period on non-motorized transportation routes. Improvements could include sidewalks and other non-motorized paths.

**Non-game Wildlife Fund and Living Resources Small Grant:**

The Small Grants Program was initiated to encourage citizen involvement in achieving the goals of Michigan's Non-game (NG) Wildlife Program. The program recognizes the wealth of scientific expertise and experience existing outside of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and provides an opportunity to qualified individuals and groups to become involved in the collection of data and the implementation of management techniques and programs to benefit non-game wildlife and endangered plants and animals.

Funding is provided through the Non-game Wildlife Fund (income tax checkoff) and the Living Resources Program. The majority of funding will be awarded to proposals dealing with survey, protection/management, or research on non-game wildlife, endangered plants, and natural communities. Funding level for 1988 was \$60,000. This grant program is managed by the MDNR, Wildlife Division.

**Michigan Council for the Arts:**

The Michigan Legislature enacted P.A. 48 of 1986 creating the Michigan Council for the Arts (MCA). Its charge is to stimulate, encourage and expand the arts throughout Michigan. The MCA receives its major funding from the State of Michigan, with assistance from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Council is a fifteen-member non-salaried board appointed by the Governor, which determines policy, programs and activities of the agency, and makes final decisions on grant allocations.

The MCA offers a variety of funding programs which support arts performances, work by individual artists, artist residences, concerts, tours, exhibitions, commissions, market development and a wide variety of other activities. MCA grants help to:

- Support concerts
- Support Michigan artists' work
- Bring the arts into Michigan schools
- Make the arts available through touring
- Involve more people in the arts
- Train developing artists
- Secure staff for arts organizations
- Provide expert guidance and consultants
- Continue existing programs

Established organizations, or those just beginning, are eligible to apply for grants. Any Michigan artist, non-profit arts organization, association, school, community or civic group, college, university, governmental body, service organization, or other non-profit organization may apply for Michigan Council for the Arts funds.



**LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES:**

**Special Assessment Districts**

State legislation is pending that would enable counties to establish local assessment districts for neighborhood improvement projects. The levy, raised within the district, would be used to finance parks, playgrounds, greenbelts, easements and other improvement projects. Wexford County should monitor this legislation and, if adopted, consider possible applications to implement the activities outlined in this plan.

**Private Donations**

Another important source of funds for local recreation projects involves community fund-raising campaigns. This is already being done in many Michigan communities. Major employers, service clubs and neighborhood groups are potential sources of assistance in projects of this type.

Wexford County should also investigate assistance from any of the number of local foundations, including The Loutit Foundation and the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.

**COMPREHENSIVE FUNDING SOURCES INDEX:**

This funding sources index links outdoor recreation projects to possible funding sources.

KEY:

- Natural Resources Trust Fund = TF
- Land and Water Conservation Fund = LWCF
- Coastal Zone Management = CZM
- Transportation Fund = DOT
- Waterways Fund = WF
- Historic Preservation Grant = HG
- Wallop-Breaux = WB
- Council for the Arts = CA

Type of Project	Funding Source
Acquisition of Land	TF, LWCF
Athletic Fields, Games and Sports Facilities	TF, LWCF
Arts Activities, Music/Dance	CA
Backpacking, Hiking Trails	DOT, LWCF, TF, CZM
Ball fields	TF, LWCF
Basketball Courts	TF, LWCF
Boat Access and Marinas	TF, LWCF, CZM, WF, WB
Bridges, Pedestrian	DOT, TF, LWCF
Canoeing Access and Boating Development	TF, LWCF, CZ, WF, WB

Type of Project	Funding Source
Change Building, Bathhouse	LWCF, TF
Coasting Hills, Sliding	TF, LWCF
Cross-Country Ski Trails	TF, LWCF, DOT
Docks, Lake/River	LWCF, TF, CZM, WF, WB
Fishing Access	LWCF, TF, CZM, WF, WB
Fishery Improvements	WB
Foot Bridges, Pedestrian	TF, LWCF, DOT
Game and Sport Facilities	LWCF, TF
Golf Courses, Frisbee	LWCF, TF
Hiking Trail (Interpretive)	TF, LWCF, CZM, DOT
Historic Restoration	HG
Ice Arena, Artificial and Natural	TF, LWCF
Lake or Pond Access	LWCF, TF, WB, WF, CZM
Land Acquisition	TF
Launching Ramps & Piers	LWCF, TF, WB, WF, CZM
Lighting, Outdoor	LWCF, TF
Marinas	WF, WB, LWCF, TF, CZM
Multiple-Use Courts	TF, LWCF
Music, Bandshells, Bandstands	TF, LWCF, HG, CA
Nature Center, Hiking Trails (Interpretive)/Preserves /Shelters	TF, LWCF, CZM
Platform Tennis	TF, LWCF
Paving, Surfacing of Areas	LWCF, TF
Pedestrian Bridges	LWCF, TF, CZM
Picnic Areas, Tables/Benches/Grills	LWCF, TF
Piers, Docks	TF, LWCF, CZM, WB, WF
Playgrounds, Apparatus/Shelters/Tot Lots	TF, LWCF
Pools, Swimming/Wave	TF, LWCF
Sled Hill Development	LWCF, TF
Skeet Shoot, Shooting Range	TF, LWCF
Skiing, Trails/Cross-Country	TF, LWCF, DOT
Tennis Courts	TF, LWCF
Trails, Biking/BMX/Hiking/Skiing/Wheelchair	TF, LWCF, DOT
Wildlife Areas, Wetland	TF, LWCF, WB

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE****INFORMATION SOURCES INDEX:**

The following synopsis offers information on a specific recreation topic. More information can be received by direct contact with a specific agency.

<b>Type of Project</b>	<b>Information Source</b>
All Terrain Vehicles Off the Road Vehicles and Trails	Forest Mgt. Division, DNR & DOT
Boat Access and Marinas Design	Recreation, DNR
Cabins and Cottages	Parks Division, DNR
Campgrounds	Parks Division, DNR
Modern/primitive	Parks/Forest Mgt. Div., DNR
Private camp/campsites	Camp Licensing Office, DSS
Conservation Education, Environmental	Public Information Div., DNR, SCS
Canoeing Access and Boating Development	Recreation/Fisheries Div., DNR
Comfort Station	Parks/Rec./Forest Mgt. Divs., DNR
Construction Cost Estimating and Data	Recreation Division/DNR
Consultants, Planning	Recreation Division/DNR
Creekshed Protection	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS
Cross-Country Skiing	Forest Mgt. Div., DNR
Culvert, Bridges and Design	MDOT & Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Day Camps, Camps and Campsites	Camp Licensing Office, DSS
Drainage-Construction	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Dune Buggies, Off-Road Vehicles	Forest Management Div., DNR
Elderly, Senior Citizen Centers	Recreation Division, DNR
Environmental Education	Public Information Div., DNR, SCS
Erosion Control, Structures and Facilities	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS
Fishing, General Information	Fisheries Div., DNR
Fishing, Laws	Law Enforcement Div., DNR
Flood Control, Structures and Facilities	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS
Foot Bridges, Design	Recreation Div., DNR
Forestry Information	Forest Mgt. Div., DNR
Handicap, Accessibility	Department of Labor
Handicap, Design	Recreation Div., DNR
Historic Preservation	History Div., Dept. of State
Hunter Education	Wildlife Div., DNR
Interpretive Centers	Parks Div., DNR

Type of Project	Information Source
Interpretive Trails	Forest Mgt. Div., DNR
Lakes and Ponds, Permits	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Living Farms	Parks/Recreation Divs., DNR
Marinas, Docks/Design	Recreation Div., DNR
Neighborhood Parks/Recreation Center Buildings	Recreation Div., DNR
Off-Road Vehicles	Forest Mgt. Div., DNR
Open Space Standards, Area Design	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Outdoor Education, Environmental Education	Public Information Div., DNR, SCS
Piers, Design/Permits	Rec./Land & Water Mgt. Divs., DNR
Planning Consultants	Recreation Div., DNR
River Systems, Natural	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Shoreline Erosion	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS
Soil Erosion and Sedimentation	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS, Drain Comm.
Tot Lots, Playgrounds	Recreation Div., DNR
Tourist and Resort Areas	Travel Bureau, Dept. of Commerce
Underwater Preserves	Parks/Land & Water Mgt. Divs., DNR
Weed Control Ponds/Lakes	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR
Wetland Preserves, Construction Permits	Land & Water Mgt. Div., DNR, SCS
Wildlife Preserves, General Information	Wildlife Div., DNR, SCS
Wildlife Preserves, Rules/Laws	Wildlife/Law Enforc. Divs., DNR

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES:**

Additional information on recreation services and grant programs are available from the following sources:

Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources Information Services Center P. O. Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-1220	Library of Michigan 735 E. Michigan Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-1593
Michigan Dept. of State Bureau of History Archives Unit 3405 N. Logan Street Lansing, MI 48918	Michigan Dept. of Commerce Travel Bureau P. O. Box 30226 Lansing, MI 48909
Michigan Dept. of Commerce Business Information P. O. Box 30225 Lansing, MI 48909 (517-373-8312)	Michigan Dept. of Agriculture Communications Office P. O. Box 30017 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-1104
Michigan Dept. of Transportation Public Information Section P. O. Box 30050 Lansing, MI 48909	Michigan Council for the Arts 1200 Sixth Avenue Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 256-3731
Michigan Dept. of Education P. O. Box 30008 Lansing, MI 48909	OR Through one of Michigan's many universities or colleges.

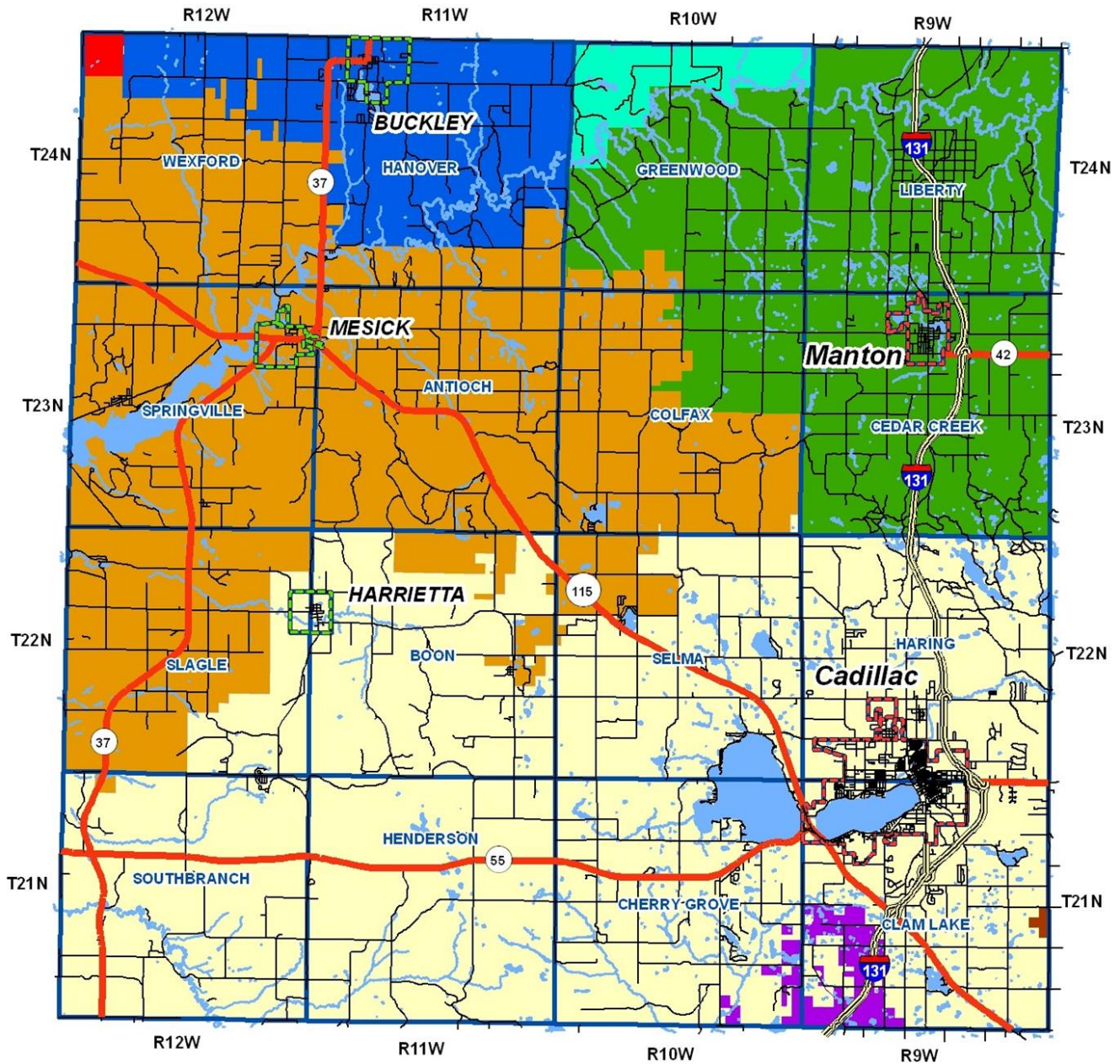
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**APPENDIX A – REGIONAL LOCATION**













**APPENDIX B – SCHOOL DISTRICT MAP**

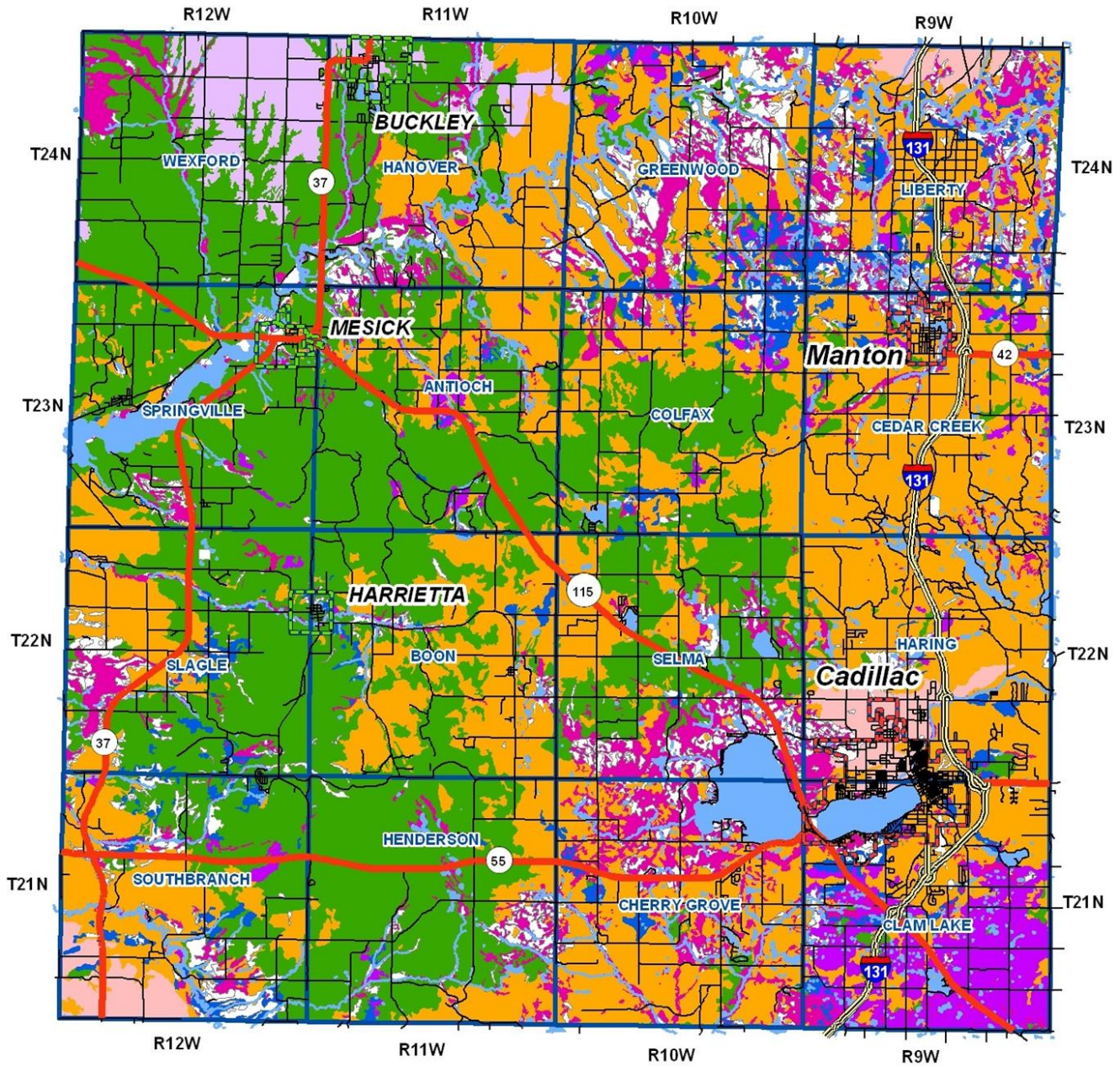


**Legend**

- |   |                                 |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | Benzie Co. Central Schools      |  | Manton Consolidated Schools     |
|  | Buckley Community Sch. District |  | McBain Rural Agricultural Schs. |
|  | Cadillac Area Public Schools    |  | Mesick Consolidated Schools     |
|  | Kingsley Area Schools           |  | Pine River Area Schools         |



**APPENDIX C – GENERAL SOILS MAP**

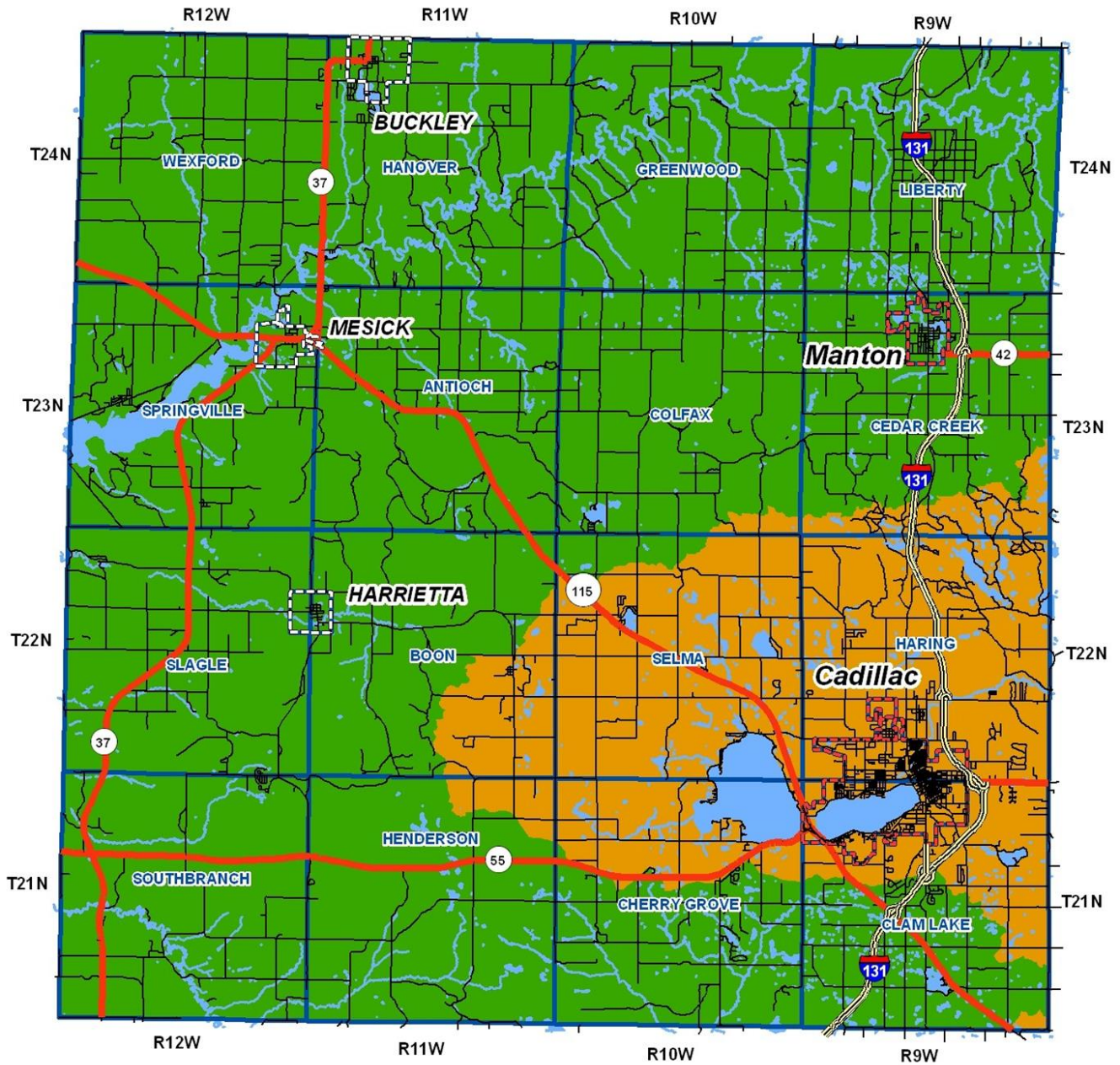


**Legend**

- |  |                   |  |                           |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
|  | Emmet-Montcalm    |  | Nester-Kawkawlin-Manistee |
|  | Grayling-Graycalm |  | Other                     |
|  | Hodenpyl-Karlin   |  | Rubicon-Montcalm-Graycalm |
|  | Kalkaska          |  | Tawas-Croswell-Lupton     |



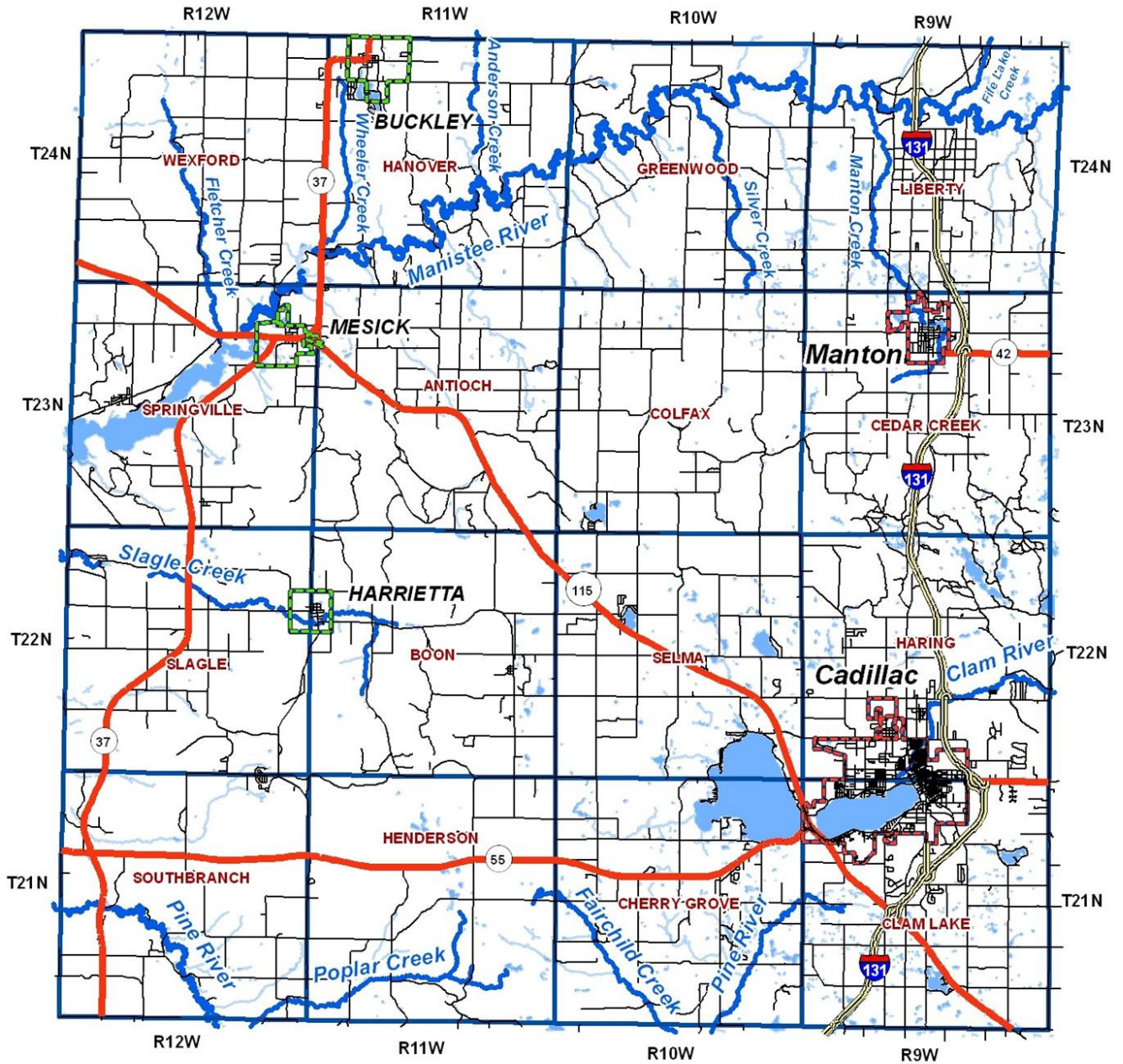
**APPENDIX D – WATERSHED MAP**



**Legend**

- MANISTEE
- MUSKEGON

**APPENDIX E – MAJOR RIVERS MAP**

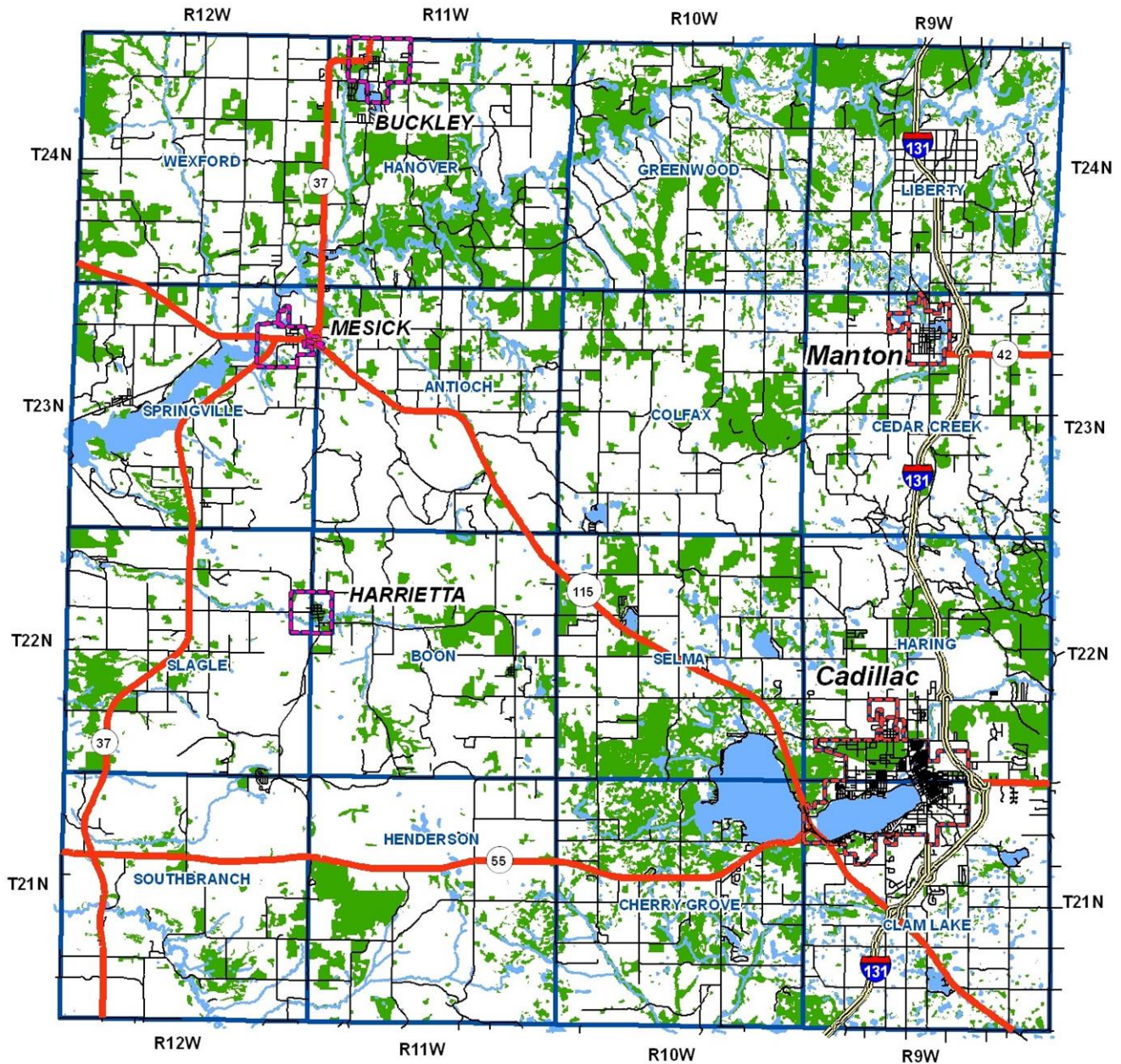


**Legend**

Major\_Rivers



**APPENDIX F – WETLANDS MAP**

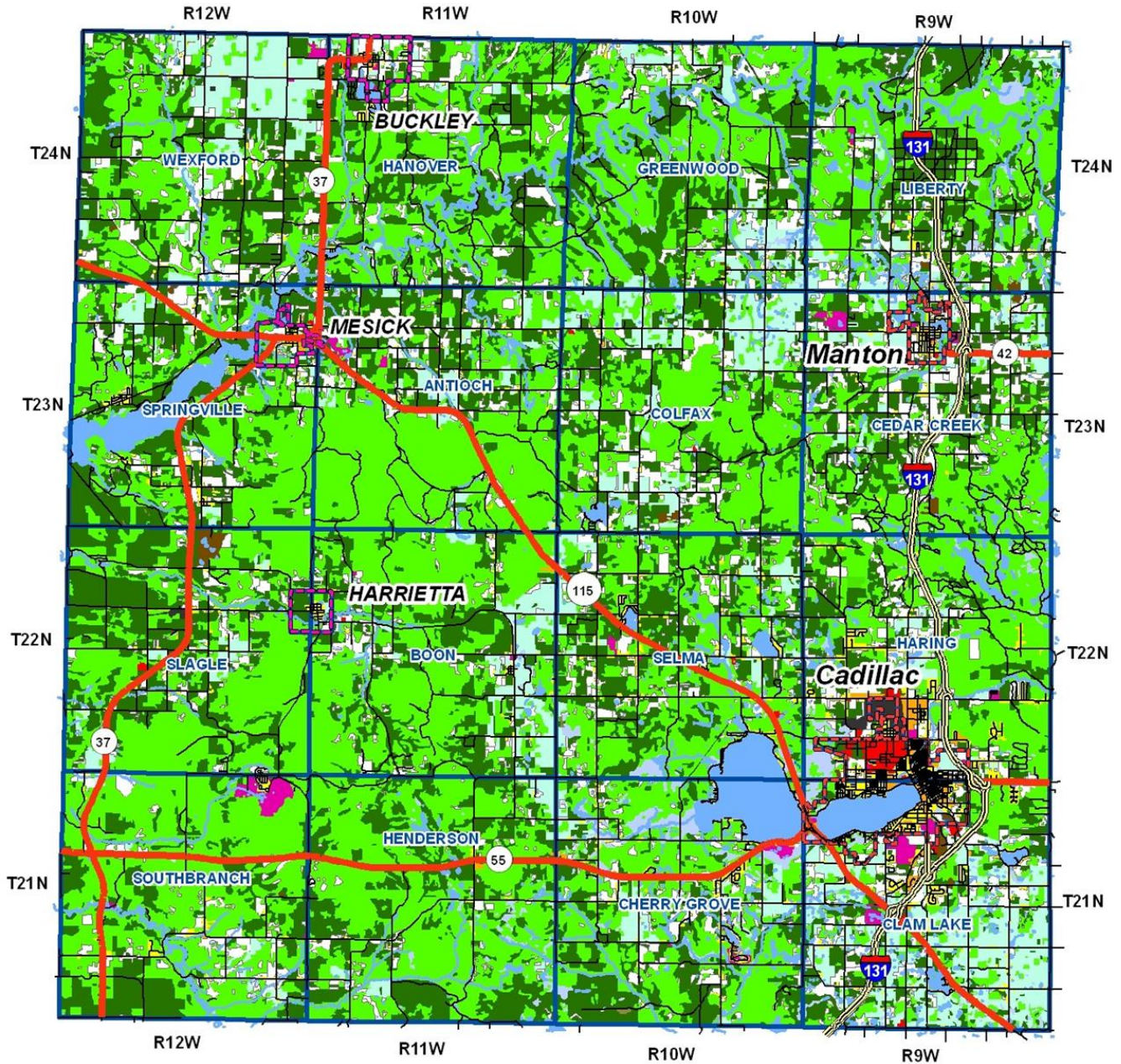


**Legend**

 Wetlands



**APPENDIX G – EXISTING LAND USE**

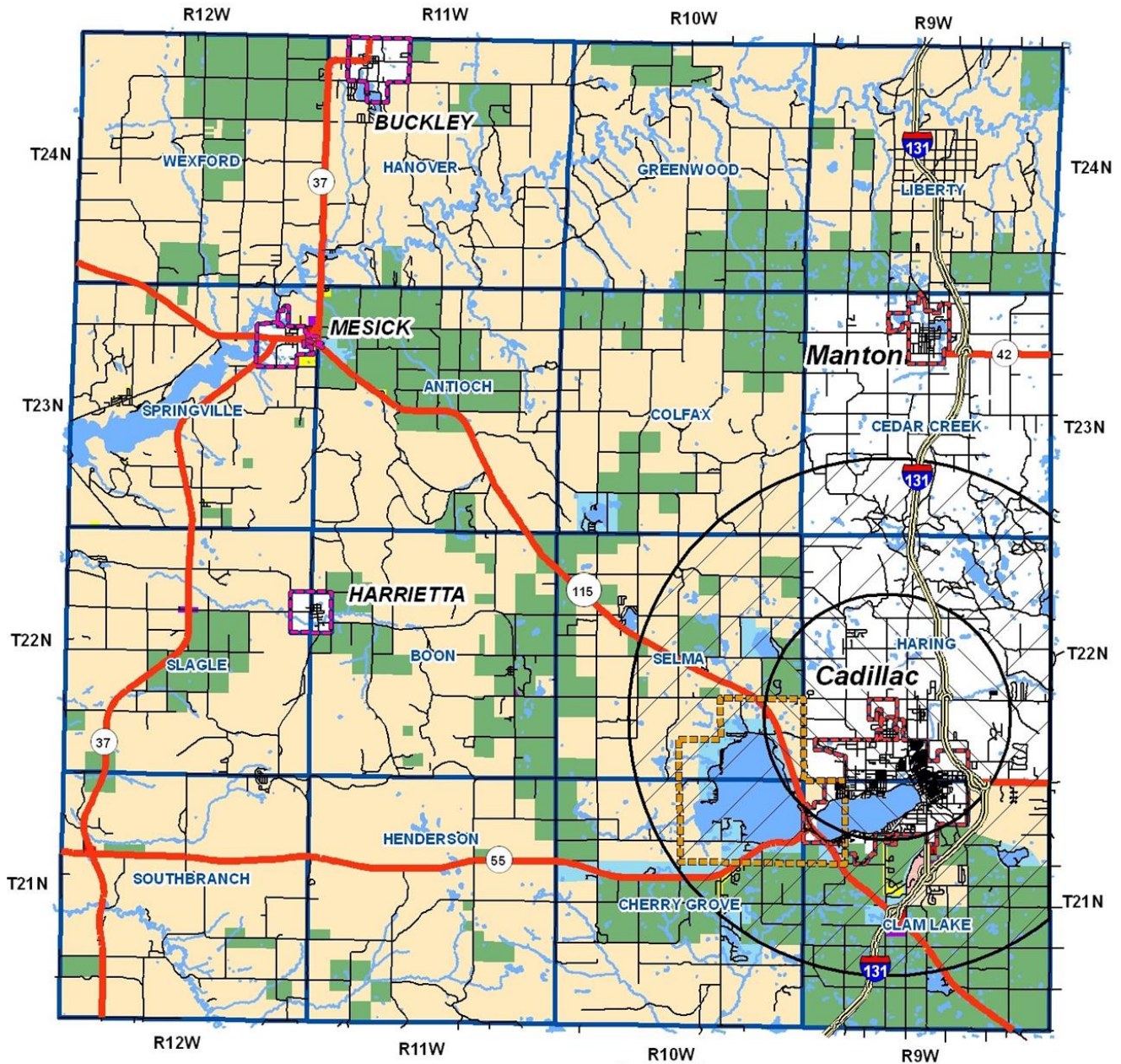


Land Use / Land Cover		Legend	
11, Residential	19, Open Land and Other	31, Herbaceous Field	51, Stream / Waterway
12, Commercial and Service	21, Crop Land	32, Shrub Plants	52, Lake
13, Industrial	22, Orchard/Vineyard/Horticulture	41, Deciduous Forest	53, Reservoir, Dam Backwater
14, Transportation, Comm., Utilities	23, Confined Feeding Operation	42, Coniferous Forest	61, Wetland - Forested
17, Extractive	24, Permanent Pasture	43, Mixed Coniferous - Deciduous	62, Wetland - Non-forested
	29, Agricultural - Other	44, Clearcut Forest	





**APPENDIX H – WEXFORD COUNTY ZONING**



**Legend**

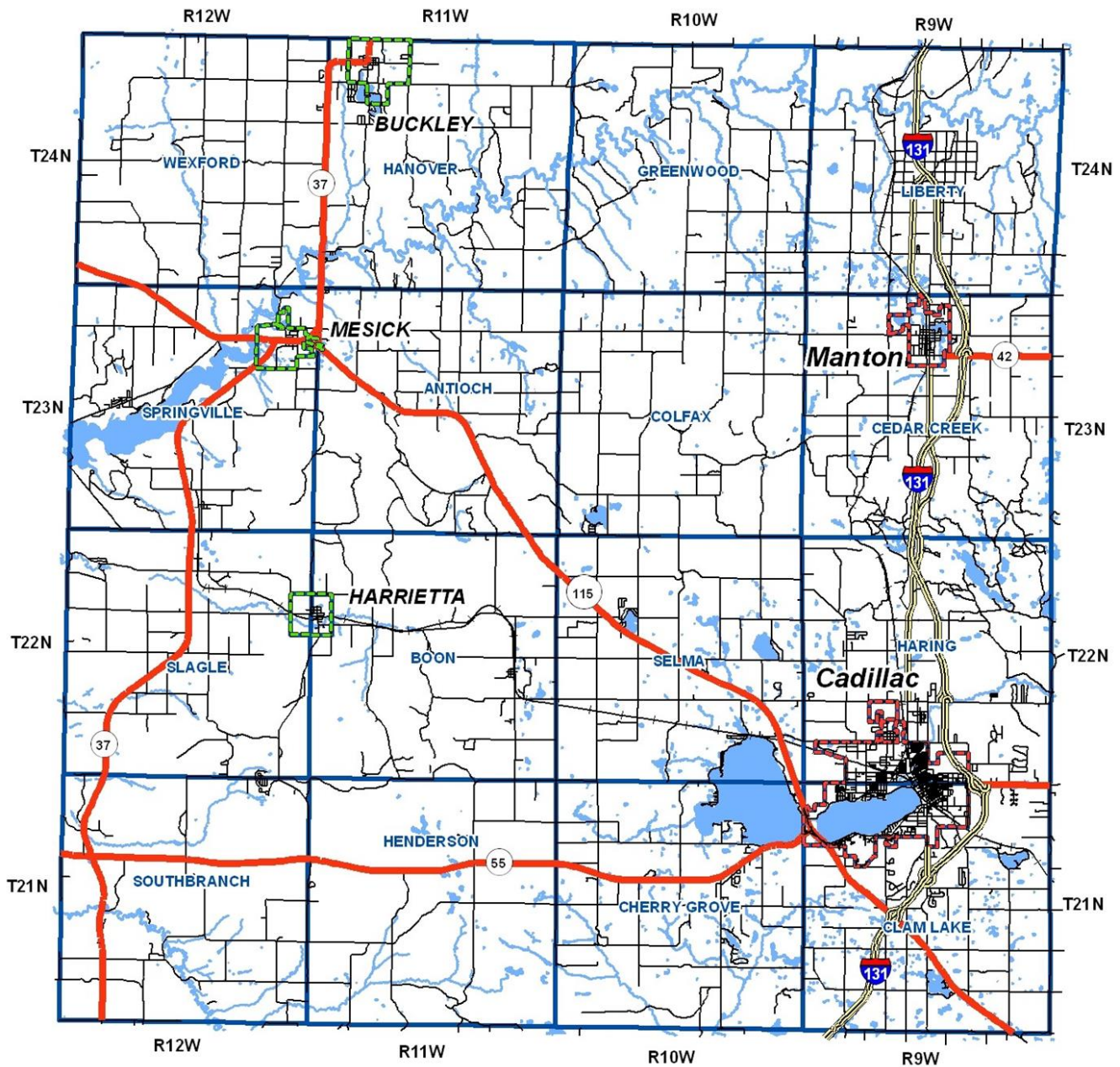


-  Lake\_Mitchell\_Overlay\_Zone
-  Airport\_overlay
-  Airport Overlay Zones
-  Inner Horizontal Surface
-  Conical Surface
-  AGRICULTURAL-RESIDENTIAL
-  COMMERCIAL-1
-  COMMERCIAL-2
-  FOREST-RECREATIONAL
-  OFFICE-SERVICE
-  RESIDENTIAL
-  RESORT-RESIDENTIAL

*All communities in Wexford County are zoned. Cedar Creek and Haring Townships, as well as all incorporated areas, maintain their own zoning ordinance. Please contact their zoning administrator for current information.*



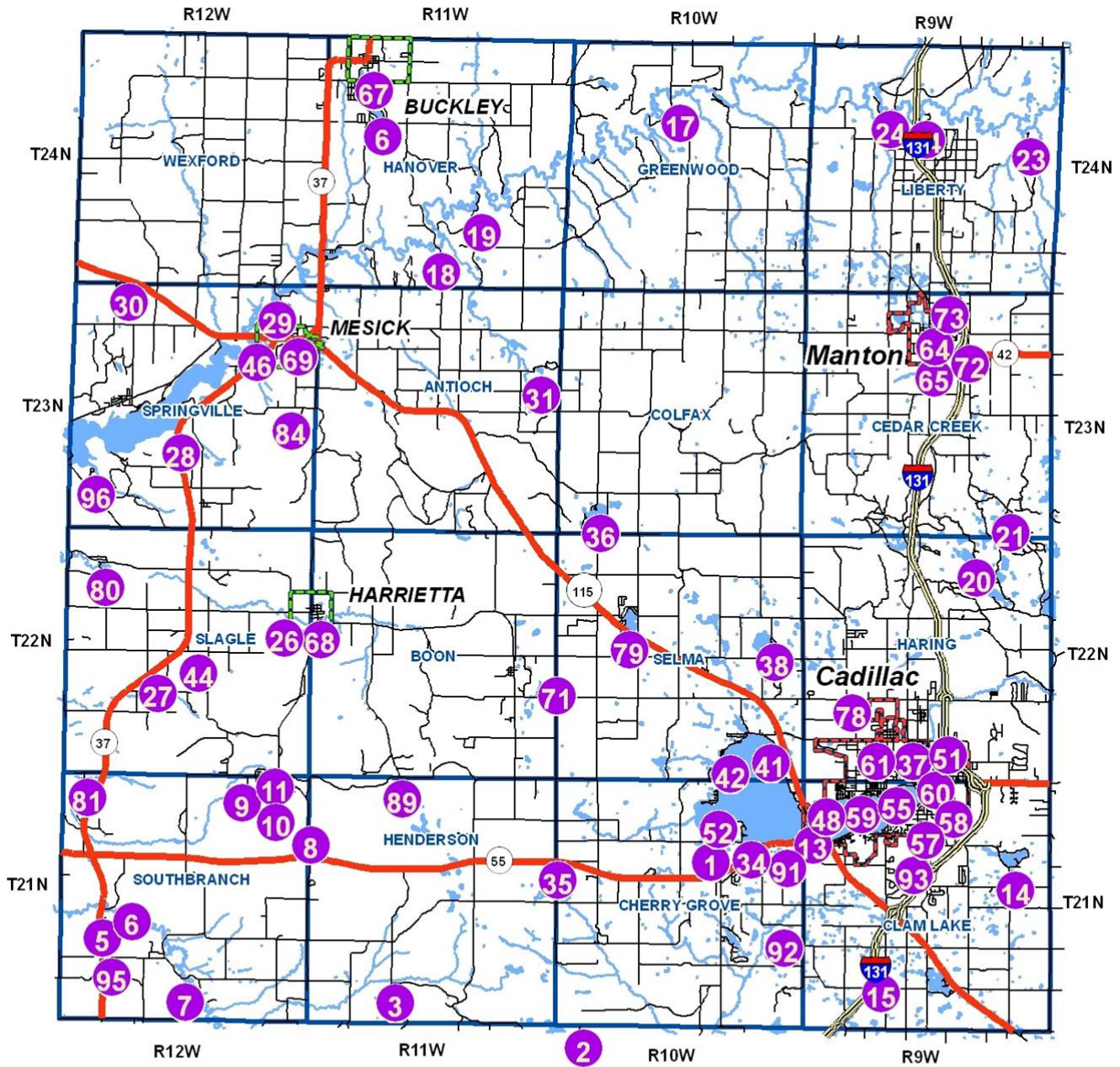
**APPENDIX I - GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP**



**Legend**

- Other Road
- State Highway
- Interstate Highway
- railroad

**APPENDIX J – OUTDOOR RECREATION MAP**



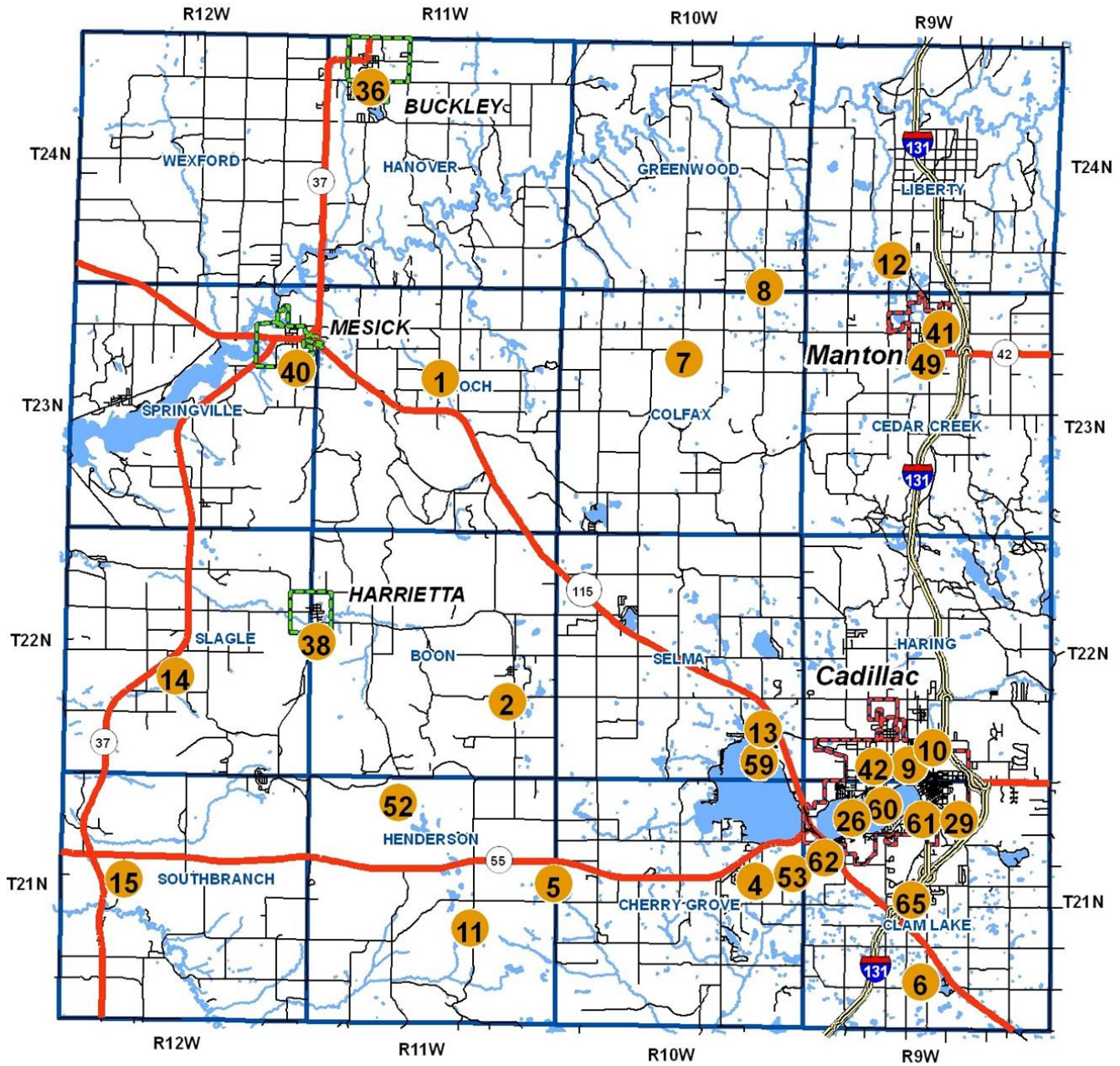
**Legend**

- 2 Outdoor Recreation Facilities

*\*Number correlates to the list No. in Recreation Inventory.*



**APPENDIX K – INDOOR RECREATION MAP**



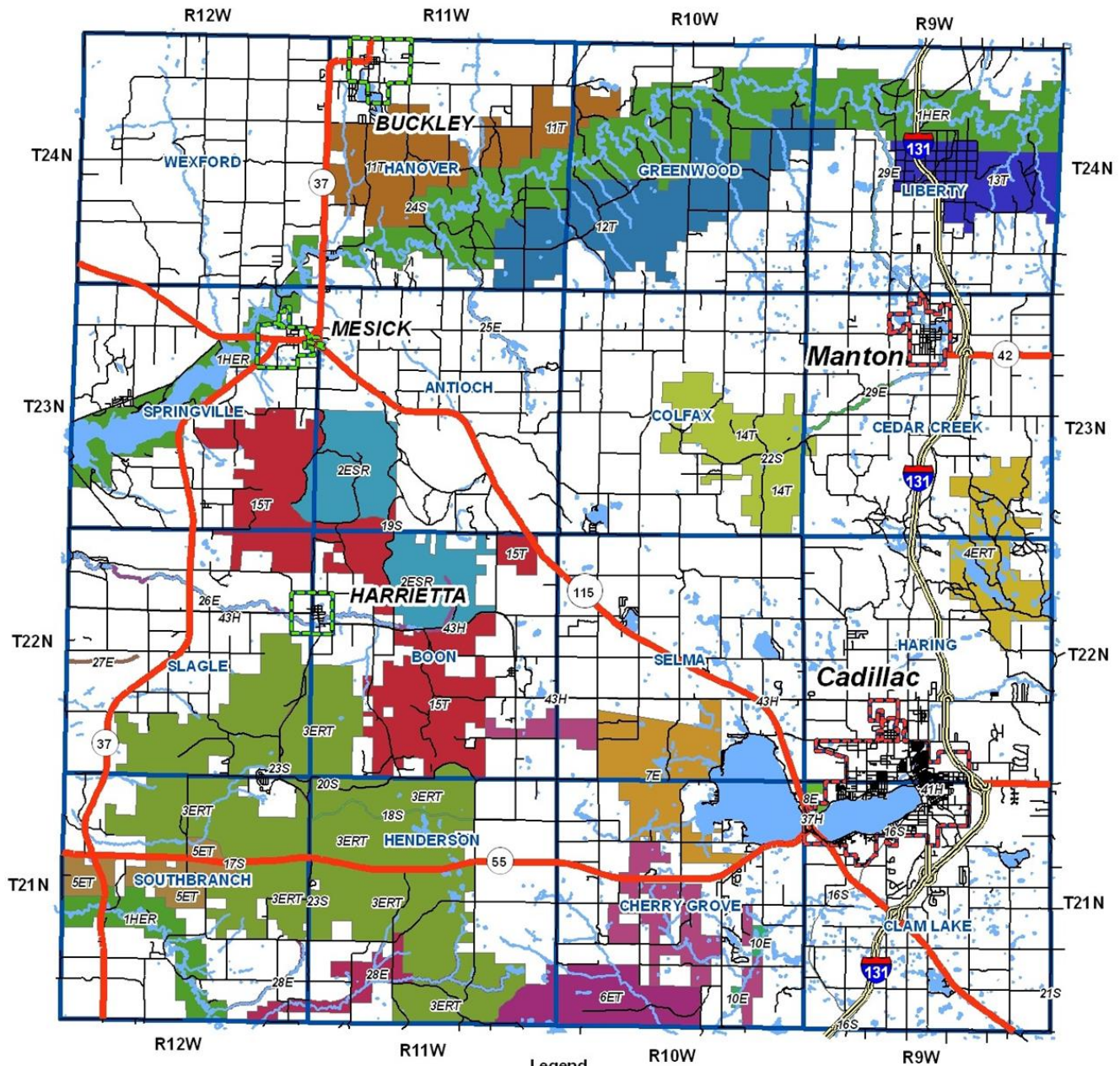
**Legend**

52 Indoor\_Rec\_Sites

*\*Number correlates to the list No. in Recreation Inventory.*



**APPENDIX L – SPECIAL/UNIQUE AREAS**



**ID / Area**

- ◆ 10E, N. Branch Pine River Swamp
- ◆ 11T, Wheeler-Anderson Area
- ◆ 12T, Greenwood Area
- ◆ 13T, Chase Creek Area
- ◆ 14T, Stoddard Lake Area
- ◆ 15T, Briar Hills Area
- ◆ 16S, White Pine Trail

- ◆ 17S, Caberfae Highway (M-55)
- ◆ 18S, W. 40 Rd. (Henderson Twp.)
- ◆ 19S, 17 Rd. (30 Rd. to 24 Rd.)
- ◆ 1HER, Big Manistee River including Pine River
- ◆ 20S, W. 38 Rd. (15 1/2 Rd. to 11 1/4 Rd.)
- ◆ 21S, S. Seeley Rd. (Clam Lake Twp.)
- ◆ 22S, Stoddard Lake Rd.
- ◆ 23S, Old State Road (48 Rd. to 32 Rd.)
- ◆ 24S, 17 and 19 Rd. (Harvey Bridge)

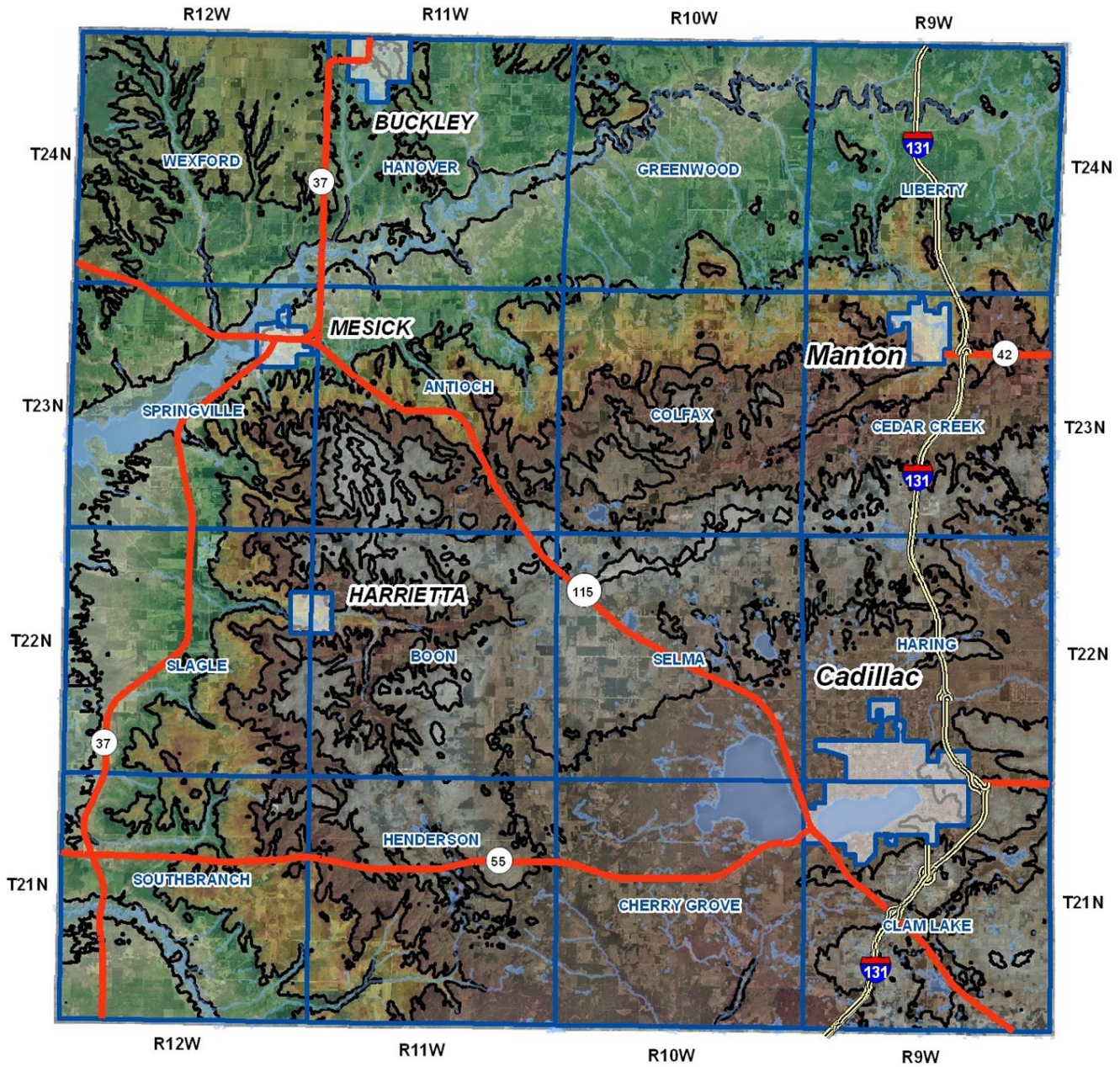
**Legend**

- ◆ 25E, Adams Creek
- ◆ 26E, Slagle Creek
- ◆ 27E, Arquilla Creek
- ◆ 28E, Pine River tributaries
- ◆ 29E, Cedar Creek
- ◆ 2ESR, Briar Hills
- ◆ 37H, Clam Lake Canal
- ◆ 3ERT, Caberfae Hills
- ◆ 41H, Cadillac Historic District
- ◆ 43H, Coates Hwy. (US 131 to WCL)
- ◆ 4ERT, Long Lake
- ◆ 5ET, Pine River Experimental Forest
- ◆ 6ET, Olga Lake
- ◆ 7E, Thousand Acre Swamp
- ◆ 8E, Heritage-Cadillac Nature Study





**APPENDIX M – TOPOGRAPHY**



**APPENDIX N – WEXFORD COUNTY RECREATION SURVEY**

Wexford County is seeking public input to help plan improvements to recreational facilities located in the County. Please answer the questions below and place in the box. **Only one form per household, please.**

1. Are you a [ ] year-round resident, [ ] seasonal resident, or [ ] visitor of Wexford County? (please check which one applies)
  
2. If you live or own property in Wexford County, what township, city, or village is it located in? \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. What type(s) of recreational activity do you and your family participate in?
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Archery	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing (from boat)	<input type="checkbox"/> Skiing (x-country)
<input type="checkbox"/> ATVs (recreational)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing (dock/shore)	<input type="checkbox"/> Skiing (downhill)
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/softball	<input type="checkbox"/> Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/> Sledding
<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoes	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowboarding
<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting/archery	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motorized)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice Skating	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing
<input type="checkbox"/> Camping (RV)	<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking	<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer
<input type="checkbox"/> Camping (tent/rustic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Running/jogging/ walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/> Dog walking		
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Please specify): _____		
  
4. What recreational facilities do you and your family use in Wexford County? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Number of persons in your household by age: 0-5:\_\_\_\_, 6-12:\_\_\_\_, 13-19:\_\_\_\_, 20-39:\_\_\_\_, 40-64:\_\_\_\_, 65+:\_\_\_\_
  
6. What improvements do you and your family think are needed to existing recreational facilities located in Wexford County? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
7. What new or expanded recreational facilities do you and your family think are needed in Wexford County? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
8. Name and Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX O – PLAN CORRESPONDENCE**

[Insert copies of minutes, agendas, written comments, etc.]