

Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Update 2023-2027

Michigan Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus
February 8, 2023

SCORP 2023-2027

STATEWIDE COMPREHESIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

- A five-year strategic plan, required to access certain federal grants
- Designed to:
 - evaluate ongoing and emerging outdoor recreation trends, needs, and issues
 - establish priority strategies for achieving outdoor recreation goals
 - shape investment by the State of Michigan and local communities in priority outdoor recreation infrastructure and programming
- State and its local outdoor recreation partners utilize the SCORP as an ongoing framework and action plan for guiding their outdoor recreation management and policy decisions.
- The SCORP is designed to be broad-serving as a guide for all outdoor recreation activities and communities throughout Michigan. It is flexible to allow for collaboration and strategic partnerships, to be adaptable to changing needs, and to be open to new ideas and strategies.

Foundation for Funding



Platform for Partnerships

What does SCORP require?

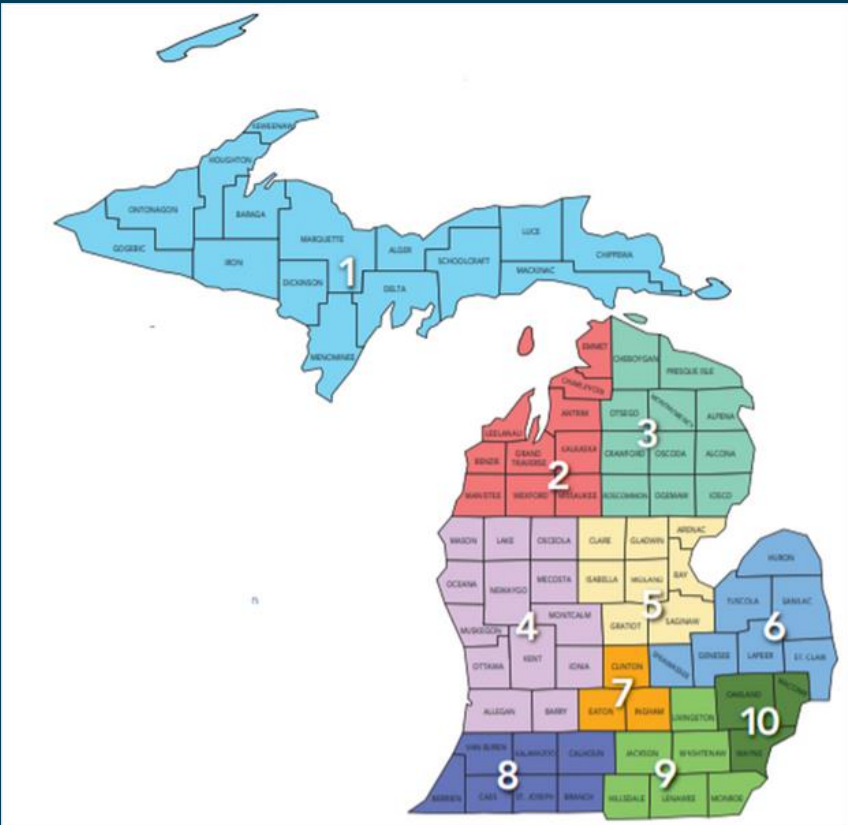
U.S. Department Of The Interior National Park Service
Land And Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program
Federal Financial Assistance Manual, Volume 71, Effective March 11, 2021

To be eligible for LWCF assistance for acquisition and development grants, each State shall prepare a SCORP and update it at least once every five years.

A SCORP program:

- evaluates the demand and supply of public outdoor recreation resources throughout a State;
- identifies capital investment priorities for acquiring, developing, and protecting all types of outdoor recreation resources;
- assures continuing opportunity for local units of government and private citizens to take part in planning for Statewide outdoor recreation;
- and coordinates all outdoor recreation programs throughout the State.

2021 Michigan Outdoor Recreation Survey



SURVEY REGIONS

Detroit Metro, East Central, East, Northeast, Northwest, South Central, Southeast, Southwest, West, U.P (“Prosperity Regions”)

SURVEY TOPICS

Topics addressed in the survey instrument include:

- Recreation Participation by Activity (frequency and duration)
- Motivations and Barriers to Participation
- Recreation Opportunities and Access
- Physical Fitness and Health
- Demographics

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

- Net Economic Valuation (NEV)
- Cost of Illness (COI)

State-level Top-Lines

Overall Rates of Participation - MI	
Overall Outdoor Participation Rate	95%
Trail Activities	86%
Water Activities	80%
Snow Activities	40%
Wildlife Activities	52%
Other Outdoor Activities	86%

Top 10 Activities (by Frequency)	% Participating	Total Annual Occasions
Going for a walk on local streets or sidewalks	80%	1,156,390,531
Going for a walk on local unpaved trails or paths	62%	380,532,847
Visiting the beach but not swimming	60%	49,959,236
Visiting parks or playgrounds	58%	82,336,815
Sightseeing and/or scenic driving for pleasure	52%	53,711,141
Swimming at the beach	47%	30,700,501
Bicycling on paved streets, paths, or sidewalks	47%	297,744,651
Social gathering outdoors at a non-home park or natural area	41%	34,050,793
Day hiking on non-local, unpaved trails or paths	38%	139,753,435
Motor boating, cruising	37%	41,085,247

Key Survey Data Storylines

Recreation Participation

Most Michigan residents have participated in some type of outdoor recreation activity within the past year. Factors such as income, accessibility, age, and health may impact one's ability to participate.

Motivations to Participate

Michiganders overall report that participating in outdoor recreation allows them to be close to nature, enjoy psychological benefits, and break from their typical routines. Certain motivations, such as practicing culturally meaningful activities, and learning new skills, see significant differences between racial groups. **Mental health benefits, however, are a generally agreed upon motivator by all.**

Land Use Strategy

Michiganders are generally happy with the availability and quality of recreation locations. However, more **densely populated areas are considerably less satisfied with the availability and quality** of locations that are close to their home.

Physical Fitness and Health

Participating in recreation and outdoor activities has many positive impacts. Physical health is a primary motivator to engage in recreational activity. However, nearly half of Michigan residents do not engage in the recommended amount of regular physical activity. **Promoting outdoor recreation is an easy way to increase and encourage overall health among all Michiganders.**

Total Net Economic Value of Recreation Participation in Michigan

\$165 Billion

The maximum amount an individual is willing to pay to participate in the activity minus the costs incurred in participating. It is NOT a measure of direct spend but an estimation of the maximum value of participating in a specific outdoor activity for an individual.



Walking
Paved
\$25.5 B



Biking
Natural
\$18.1 B



Biking
Paved
\$16.2 B



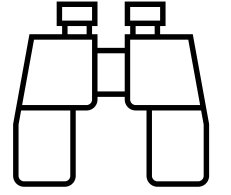
Day hiking
natural
\$13.2 B



Jog/Run paved
\$12.2 B



ATV \$8.8 B



Wildlife
Viewing
\$11 B

Annual Cost of Illness Savings in Michigan

\$2.75 Billion

Cost of Illness (COI) savings that could be attributed to the physical activity resulting from outdoor recreation activities. The OR Estimator tool estimates COI savings for eight primary illnesses (breast cancer; colon cancer; stroke; ischemic heart disease; depression; dementia; diabetes; and hypertensive heart disease).



Walking
Paved
\$927 M



Walking
Natural
\$414 M



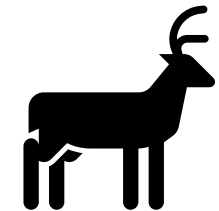
Biking
Paved
\$313 M



Jog/Run paved
\$291 M



Day hiking
natural
\$199.5 M



Hunting
\$150 M



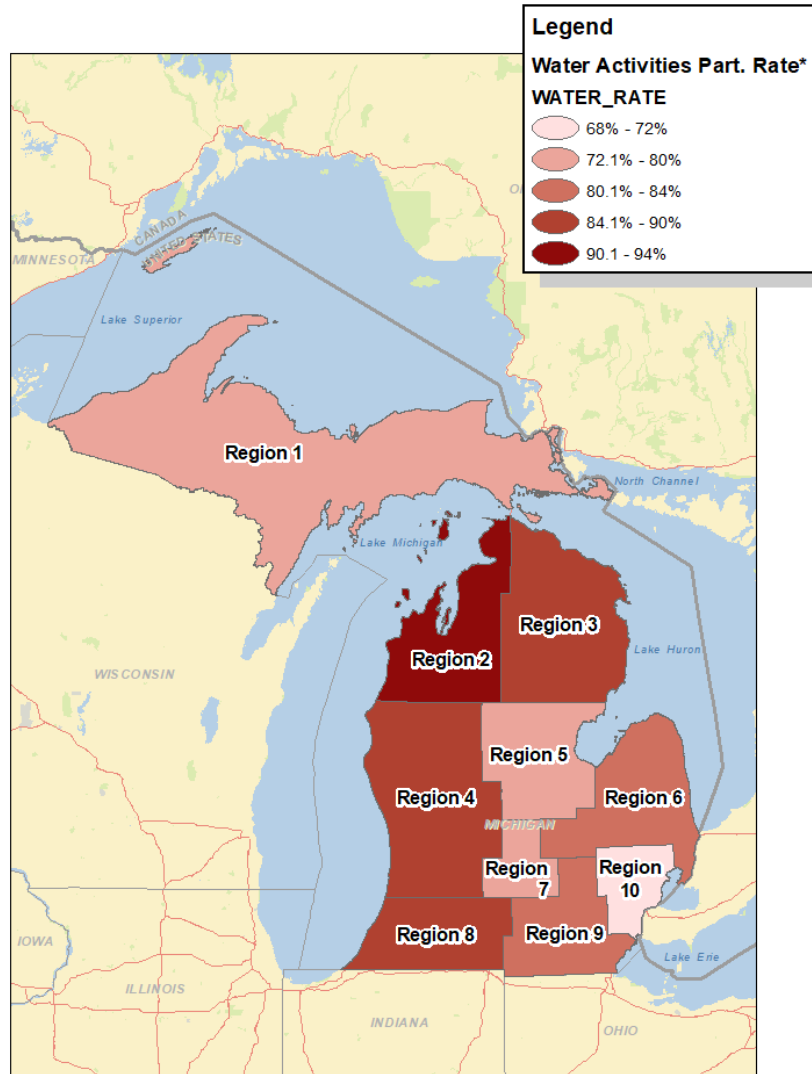
ATV
\$120 M

Top 5 Motivations - MI	% Agree
Enjoy Nature	94%
Feel better mentally and emotionally	93%
Have time away from my normal work and life routines	89%
Exercise and be physically challenged	82%
Have new experiences	80%

Top 5 Barriers - MI	% Limits Rec Participation
I don't have time	64%
Recreation areas are too crowded	60%
Recreation areas are poorly maintained	53%
Concern about safety/crime in outdoor recreation areas	49%
I don't have enough money for gear, fees, and other non-transportation expenses	49%

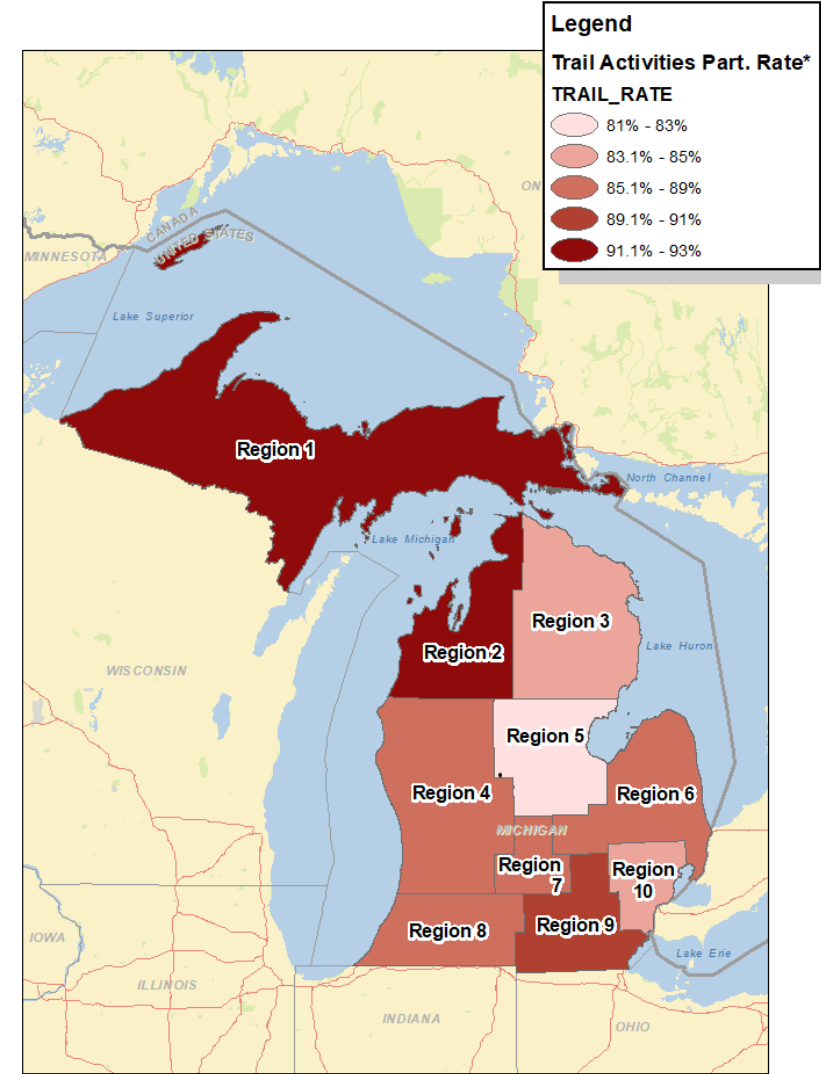
Regional Comparisons and Planning Tools

Water



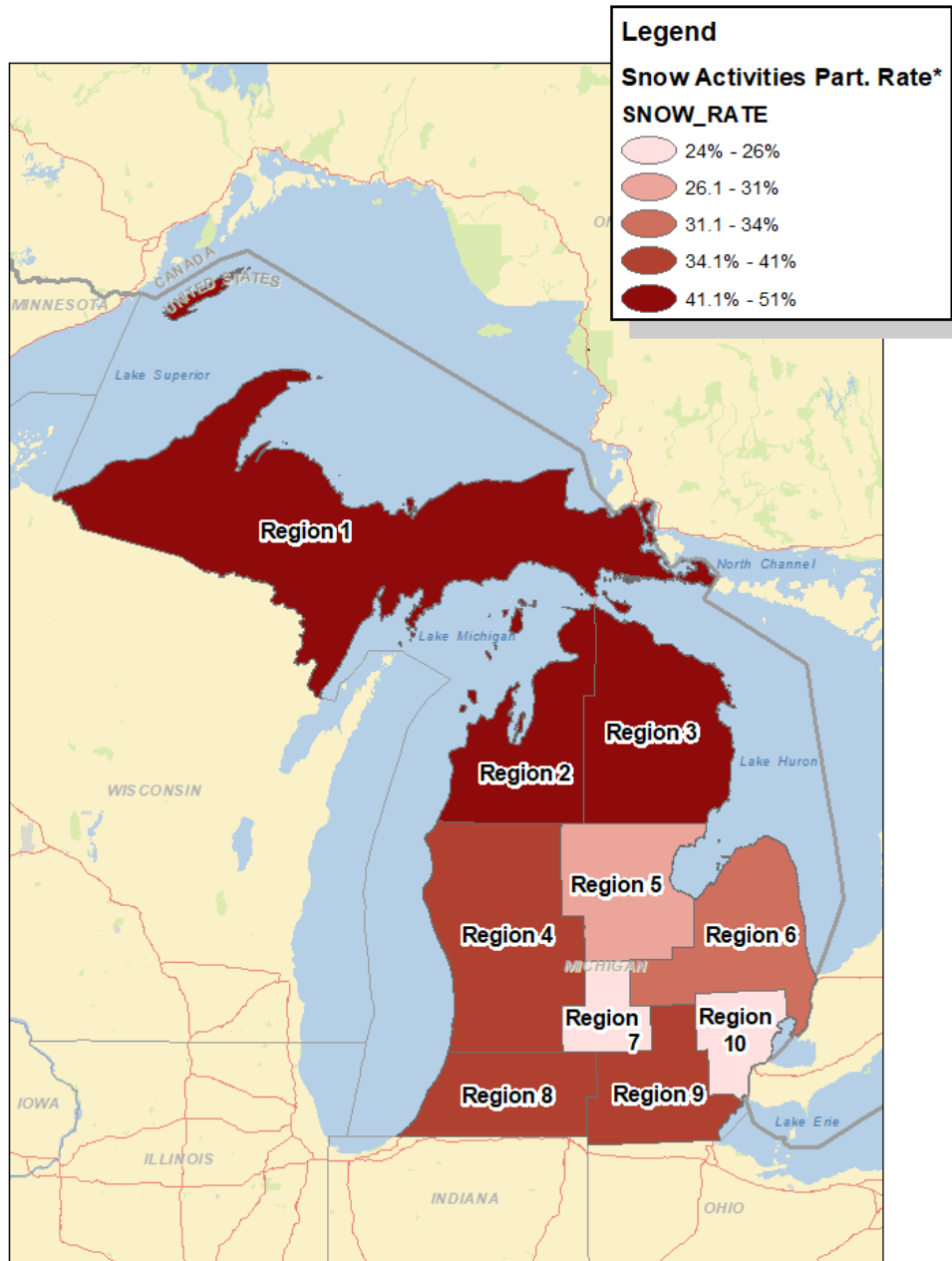
*Water activities include: swimming at the beach, visiting the beach but not swimming, swimming or playing in outdoor pools/spray parks, motor boating/cruising, tow-behind sports, jet skiing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, rafting, river tubing, kayaking, boardsailing, windsurfing, and surfing.

Trail



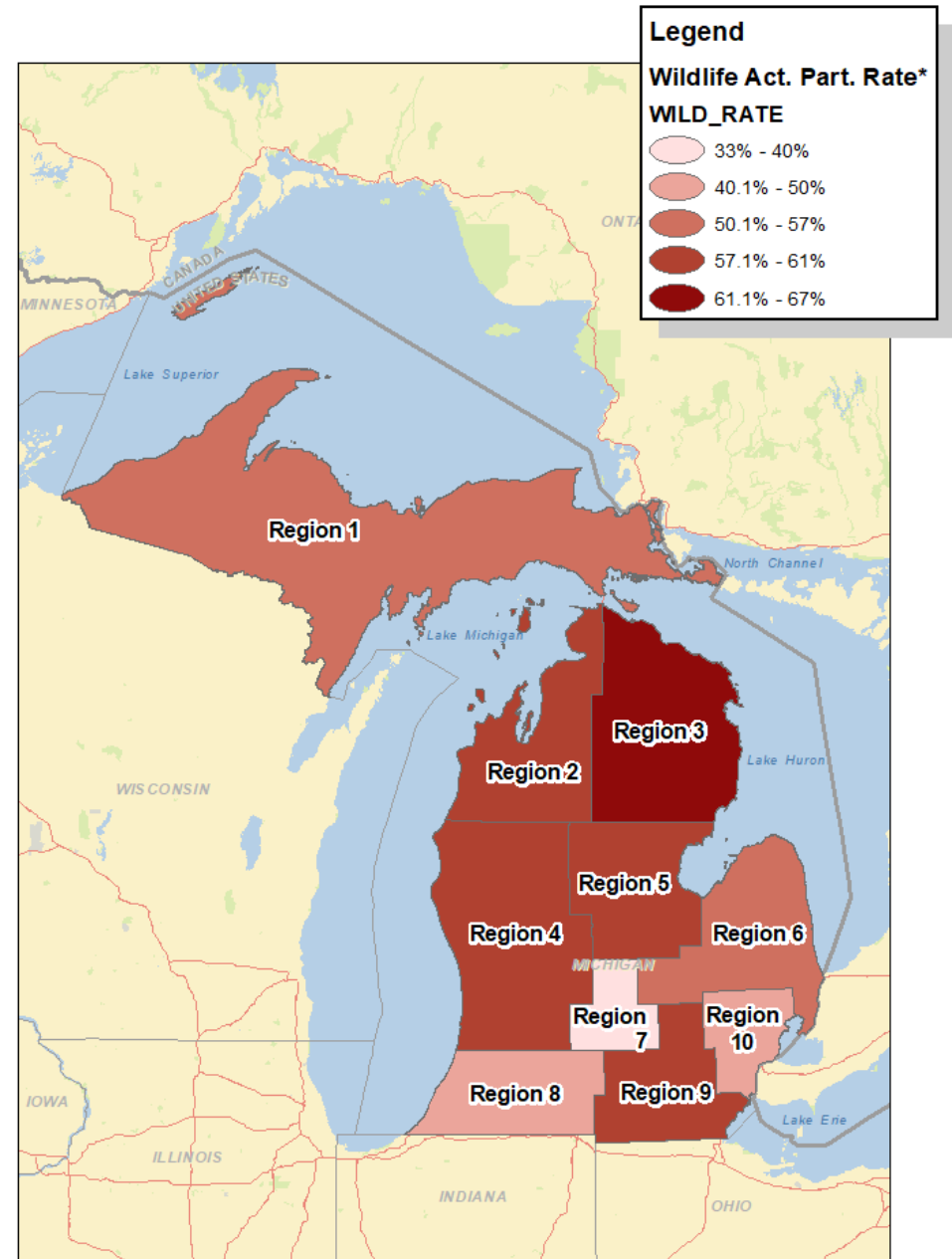
*Trail activities include going for a walk, jog, or run on local paved and unpaved streets and sidewalks, horseback riding, backpack camping, bicycling on paved or unpaved streets, paths, or sidewalks, and off-road motorcycling, ATV riding, and four wheeling.

Snow



*Snow activities include: cross-country skiing, cross-country snowshoeing, downhill skiing, snowboarding, outdoor ice skating, sledding/tubing, and snowmobiling

Wildlife

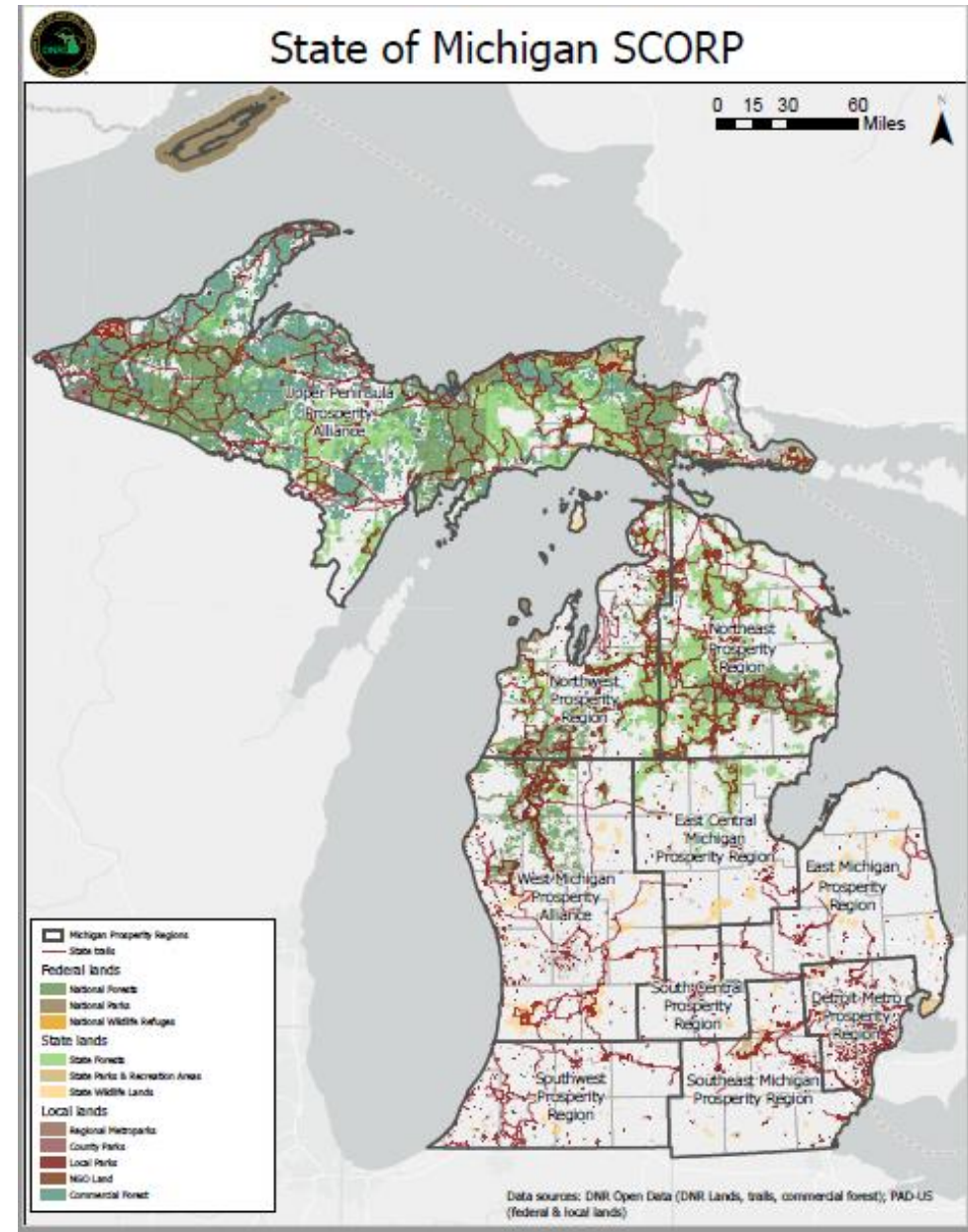
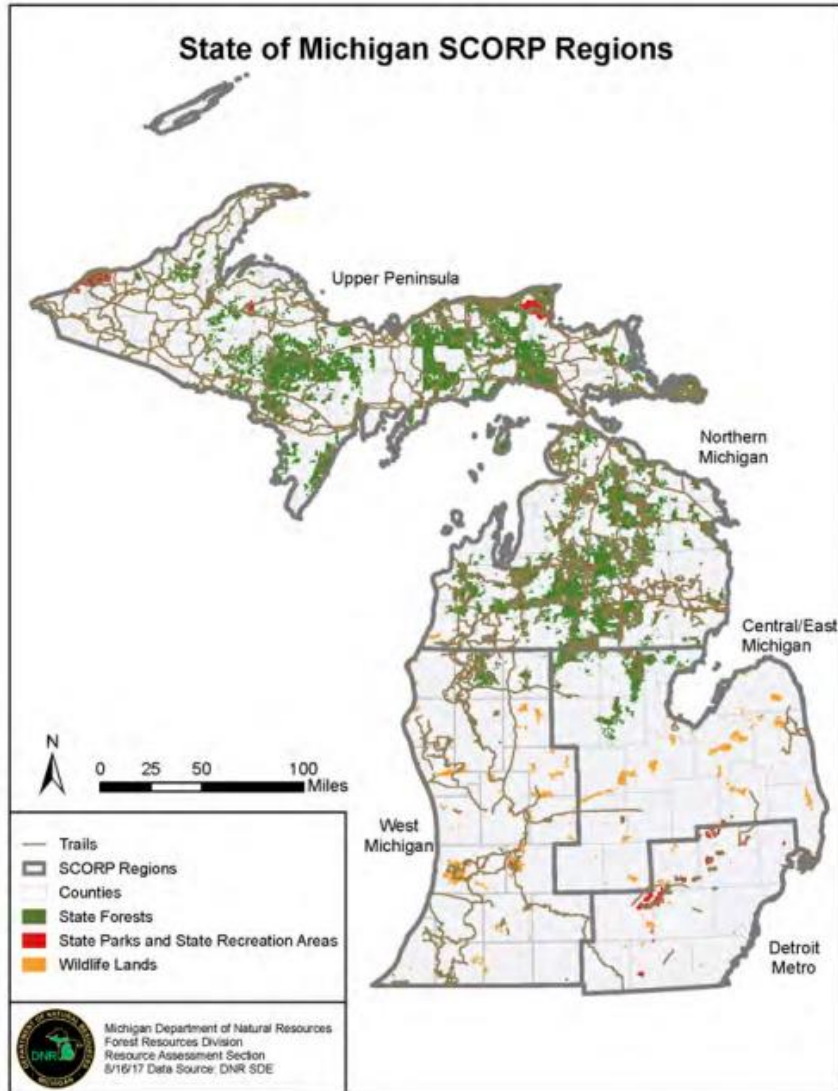


*Wildlife activities include: lake fishing, pond fishing, ice fishing, big game hunting, small game hunting, and wildlife viewing and/or photography

Public Recreation Parks, Trails and Lands:

vs 2022 SCORP

Comparison 2017

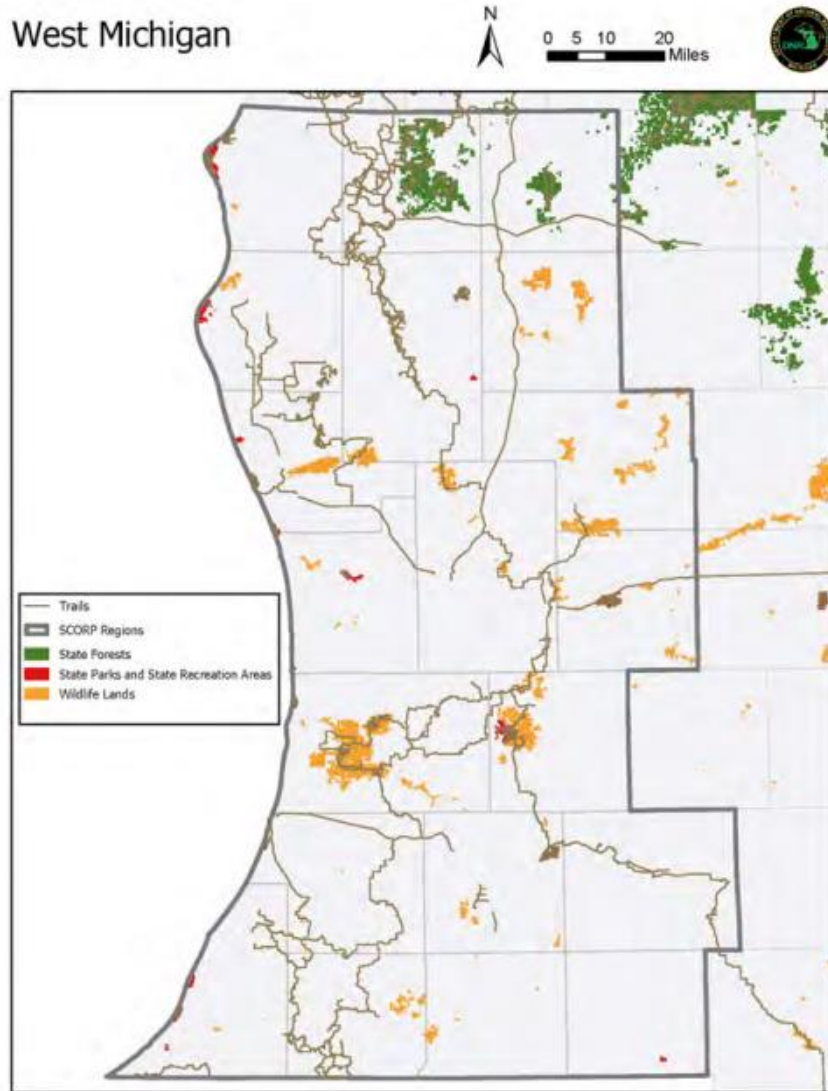


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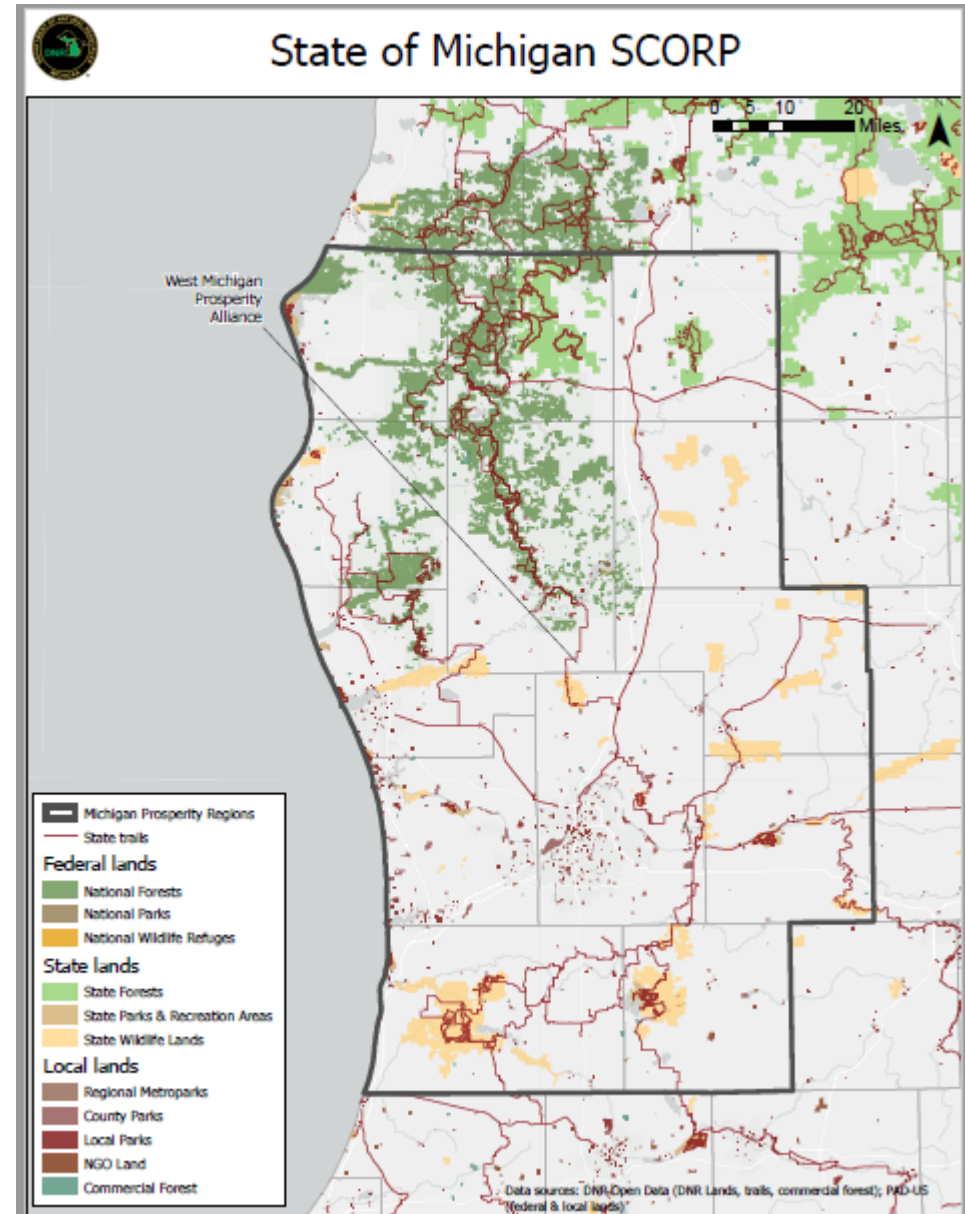
vs 2022 SCORP

Comparison 2017

West Michigan



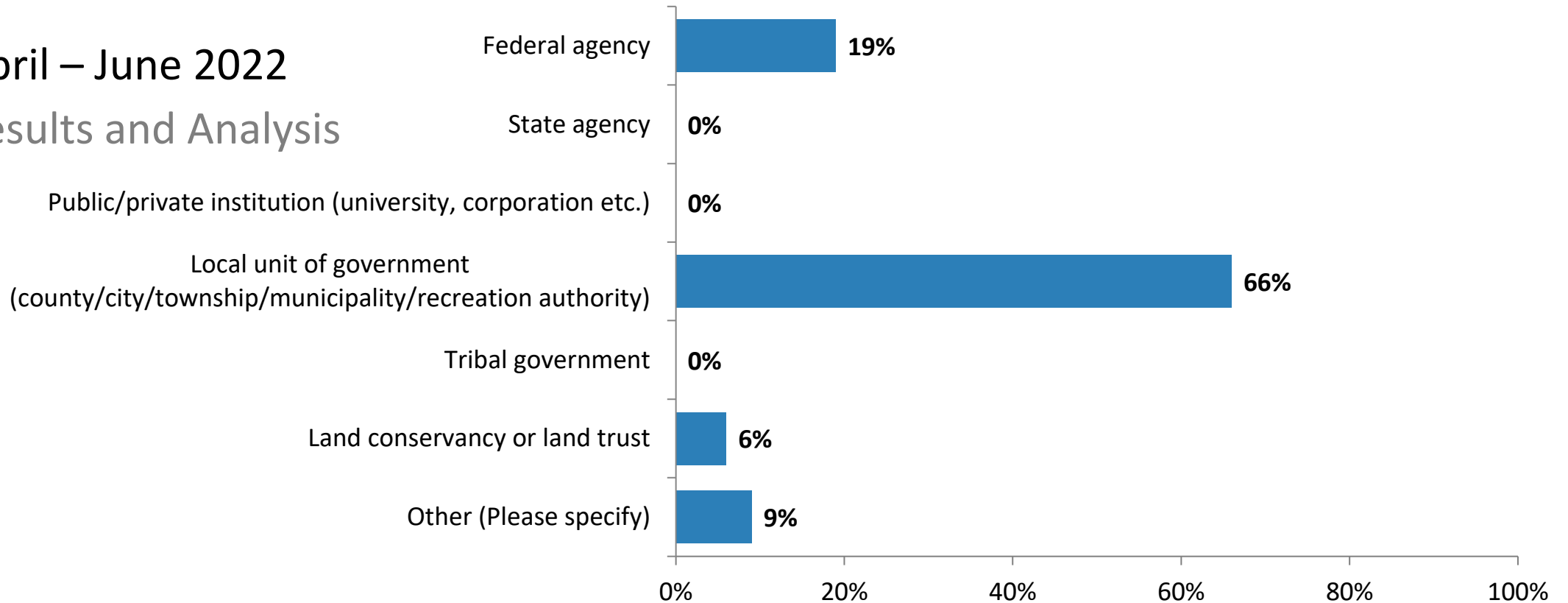
State of Michigan SCORP



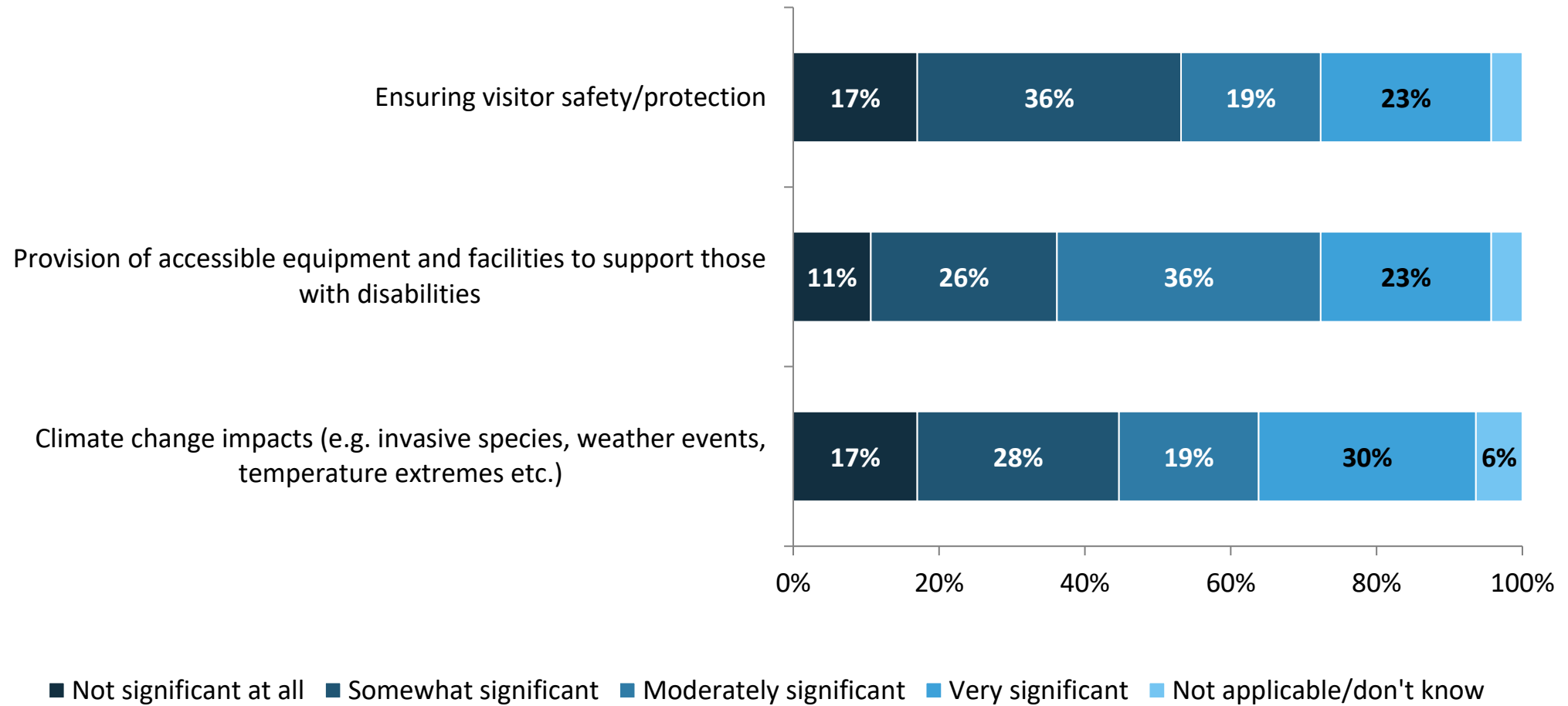
Public Recreation Land Manager Survey

April – June 2022

Results and Analysis




How significant are the following outdoor recreation management and visitor services issues for your organization/agency? (Continued)




Key issues Affecting Outdoor Recreation in Michigan

- **Inequitable Access and Opportunity**
- **Use Pressure and Technology Demands**
- **Collaboration and Communication**
- **Long-term Funding and Service Delivery**
- **Climate Change and Sustainable Resources**



Goal of the 2023- 2027 SCORP

“Ensure that Michigan’s outdoor recreation assets are equitably distributed, developed and managed to provide convenient and welcoming access to the outdoors for healthful, outdoor physical activity; drive broad-based economic and quality-of-life benefits to people and communities; while sustaining our lands, waters and wildlife for current and future generations.”



Key Outdoor Recreation Strategies

- **Improve collaboration:** Outdoor recreation stakeholders collaborate and cooperate to ensure that Michigan's recreation system meets the needs of residents and visitors.
- **Improve recreational access:** Recreation opportunities are connected and accessible to residents and visitors of all backgrounds, abilities, means, and geographic locations.
- **Enhance health benefits:** Outdoor recreation increases physical activity and provides mental health benefits for Michigan's residents.
- **Enhance prosperity:** Outdoor recreation advances economic prosperity and supports a high quality of life as well as talent retention in Michigan's communities.



Appendices

- Public Recreational Lands Maps
 - 2021 Outdoor Recreation Survey Report and Data
 - Net Economic Value Whitepaper
 - Cost of Health Savings Whitepaper
 - Public Lands Manager Survey
 - Diversity and Inclusion Focus Groups
 - Emerging Digital Data Sources Pilot Studies
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