



Wisconsin's
Glacial Heritage Area



**A Community Based Outdoor Recreation
and Conservation Project**

Glacial Heritage Area

What is the GHA?

A series of parks, preserves, wildlife and natural areas, and other conservation lands that will be linked together and to nearby cities and villages through a network of trails.

“A network of Strings and Pearls”.

How did we get here?

- 2003 - The Wisconsin NRB approves the Land Legacy Report.
- 2005 – The NRB approves the implementation of a feasibility study for the GHA.

Wisconsin Land Legacy Report

*An inventory of places to meet
Wisconsin's future conservation and recreation needs*



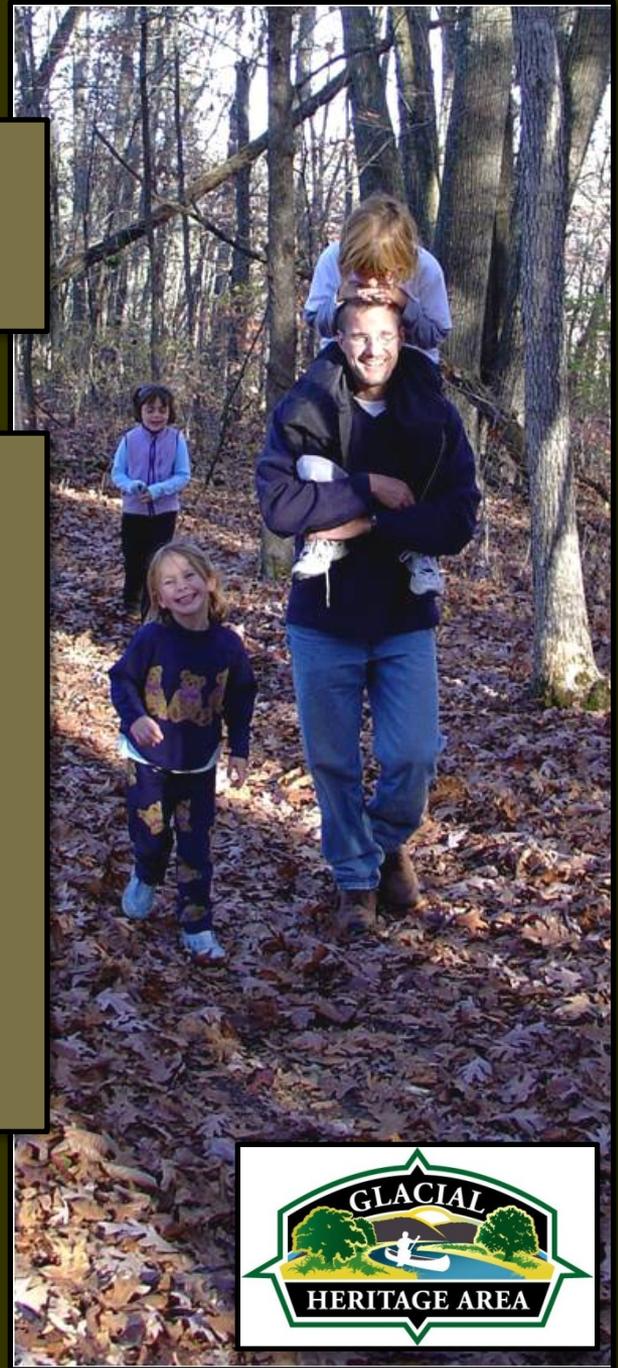
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2005



GHA Feasibility Study
FINDINGS

Regional Recreational Needs

- Half-day, day, and weekend trips.
- Trail-based activities.
- Wildlife watching.
- Hunting & Fishing.
- Camping.
- Connected to other cultural destinations.



GHA Feasibility Study

FINDINGS

Regional Conservation Needs

- Prairie, oak savanna, oak woodlands.
- Large wetland complexes.
- Water quality.
- SGCN



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GOALS

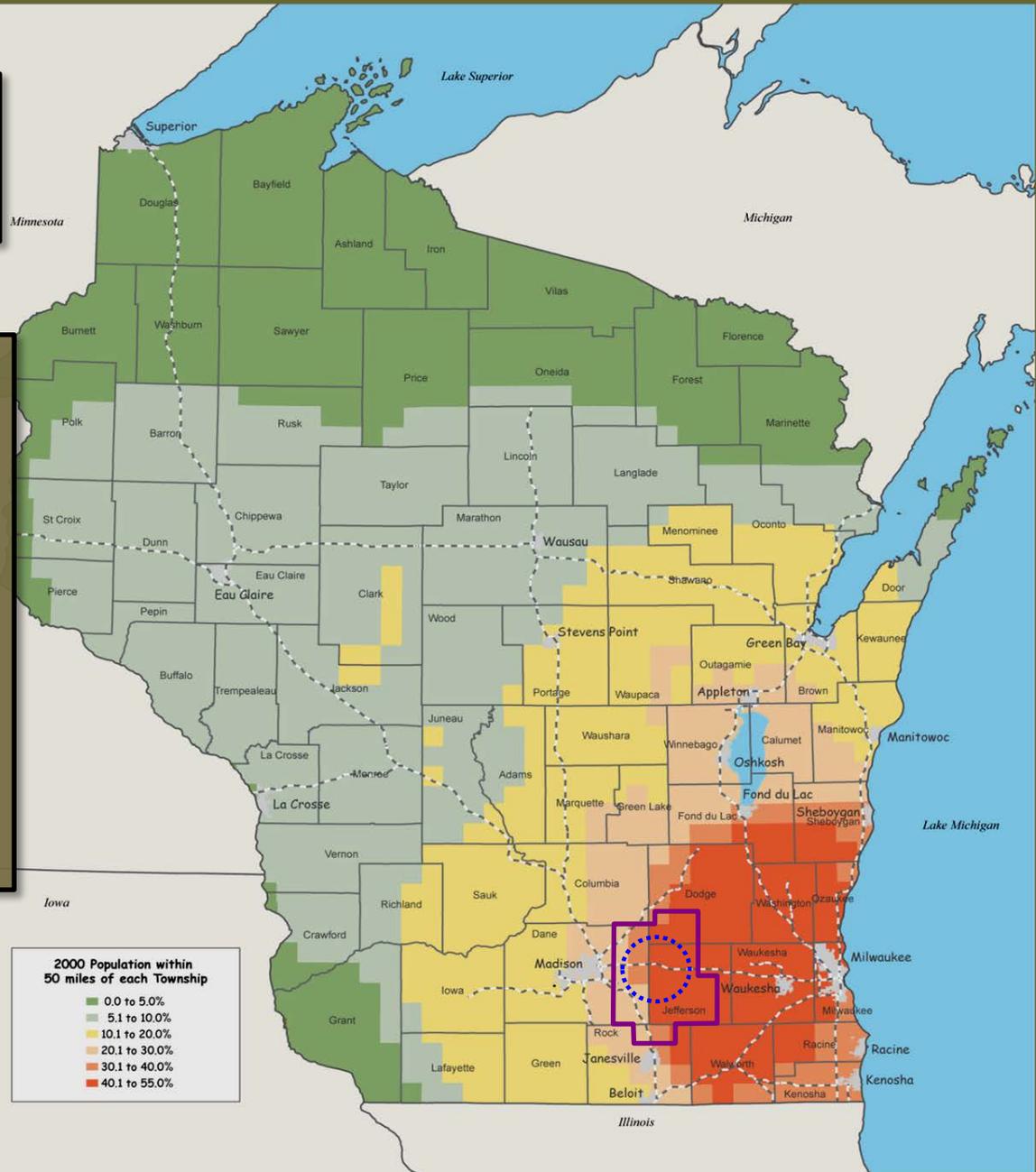
1. Provide exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.
2. Preserve wildlife and water resources.
3. Complement voluntary protection of farmland.
4. Combine ecology and economy to improve resident's quality of life.
5. Work collaboratively across jurisdictions.



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WHY HERE?

GHA would be readily accessible to a majority of the state's population.



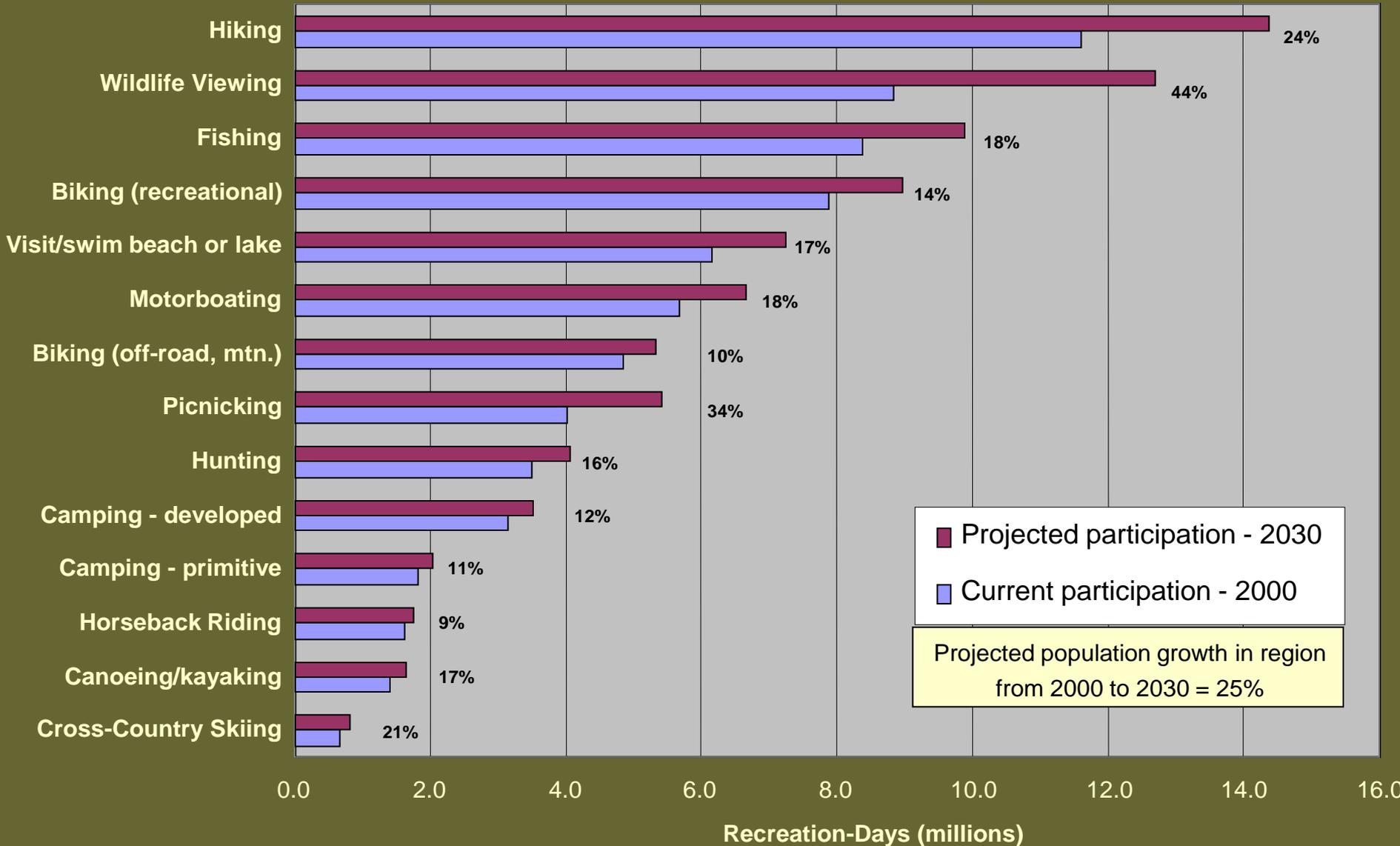
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WHY HERE?

1. High quality of recreation experiences.
2. Existing public properties.
3. Cost of land, parcel size.
4. Existence of comprehensive plans.
5. Local support.



What's in Demand in the Region?



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WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Coordinated Network of:

- *Conservation Parks*
- *Linking Trails*
- *River-based Conservation Areas*
- *Wildlife & Natural Areas*



Wildlife & Natural Areas

- Expand all 11 State Wildlife Areas.
 - Protect additional wetland and grassland habitat.
 - Improve public access.
 - Provide additional hunting & trapping and rustic settings for hiking and wildlife watching.
- Establish Crawfish Prairie Habitat Area.
- Establish Rural Landscape Protection Areas (buffers of undeveloped farmland).



Glacial Heritage Area

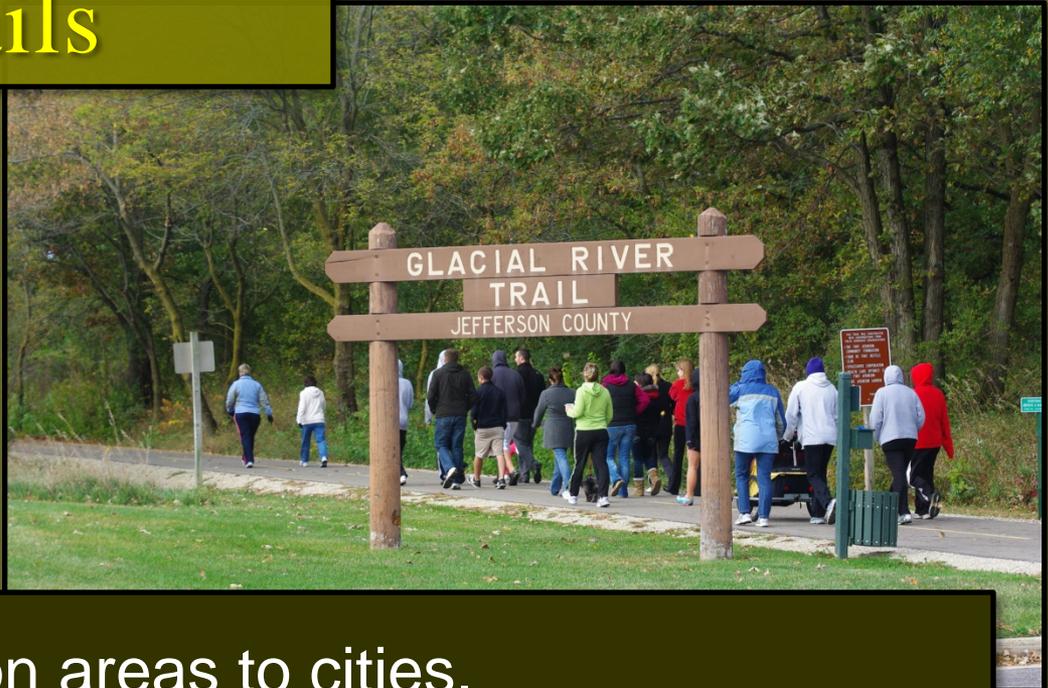
Conservation Parks

- Provide high quality trail-based activities and associated facilities (*picnic areas, water/toilet, wildlife watching sites, interpretive kiosks*)
- Native habitat settings.
- Modest sized (*200-700 acres*).
- Expand 5 existing parks, establish 7 new parks.



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Linking Trails



- Connect conservation areas to cities.
- Preferred off-road or separated from vehicle traffic connections.
- Offer longer distance opportunities, primarily biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing.
- 100 miles of trails within narrow corridors.

Glacial Heritage Area

River Based Conservation Area



Three types of places:

1. Small boat access sites for water trails; some larger blocks for river-based camping.
2. Large blocks of high-quality wetlands and floodplain forests.
3. Stream bank corridors to improve water quality.

Glacial Heritage Area

Which lands will be included?



Currently owned
or authorized for
purchase*

Proposed
purchases

Conservation Parks

3,500 acres

3,801 acres

Linking Trails

300 acres

1,344 acres

River Corridors

400 acres

2,075 acres

Wildlife Areas

31,500 acres

20,800 acres

Total

35,700 acres

28,020 acres

*DNR, counties, municipalities, or non-profit conservation groups.

What makes this project unique?

- Network of resources and not one “place”.
- External Advisory Team very involved in planning and development.
- Community-based partnership in design and implementation.
- Linked to local economic growth



Glacial Heritage Area

Public Reaction to Draft Plan

- 694 surveys completed.
- 9 letters or resolutions.



- **Overwhelming support** (*90% strongly or moderately support each of the four components as proposed*).



Glacial Heritage Area Implementation Team

Glacial Heritage Area

GHA Brochure

Why Here?

One of the GHA's primary goals is to provide convenient and readily accessible recreational opportunities close to where people live. The plan was created to preserve these precious pearls and yet stimulate economic growth by sharing them with others.

This area supports high quality grasslands, wetlands and forests interspersed with productive agricultural land. It provides a unique opportunity to protect a landscape that harbors a wide-variety of habitats, provides a wide range of outdoor, nature-based recreation and sustains viable farming operations.

The GHA area is located between two of Wisconsin's largest metropolitan areas - Madison and Milwaukee. It is primarily in Jefferson County but portions are in Dane, Dodge and Rock counties. It offers excellent recreational opportunities for residents in the immediate area and those from outside the region.



This brochure was produced in writing of M&H CONSULTANTS, Inc.



The GHA is not a county or state facility. It's not a bike or walking trail. It is all of these. It includes dozens of public conservation areas extending into four counties with future planned public conservation areas tied together by bike, pedestrian and waterway trails.

The cluster is described as pearls on a string. The pearls are our valuable natural resource areas and the string is the connecting trails.



Map of a portion of the GHA Project Area. It shows parks, trails, and wildlife and natural areas. A map of the entire GHA project area and recreation asset map will be available. Parts of the network are in place and offer exceptional opportunities to hike, bird watch, hunt, paddle, fish and hike. Additional portions are in the works.

Come to the GHA!

To learn more about GHA, the opportunities it provides and how you can help or to request a recreation asset map contact:

- Department of Natural Resources at glacial.heritage@wisconsin.gov or 608-275-3320
- Jefferson County Parks at 920-674-7260

www.glacialheritagearea.org



Enjoy outdoor recreation close to home

The Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) is a network of parks, wildlife and natural areas, historic and cultural sites connected to each other and nearby cities and villages by trails and waterways - like pearls on a string.

It provides recreational activities, preserves wildlife and water resources, complements voluntary protection of working farms, combines ecology and economics to improve residents' quality of life and unites various groups with the common goal of preserving these precious pearls.

This string of pearls is also an economic development engine that meets a growing demand for accessible and diverse recreational choices between Madison and Milwaukee. It provides exciting economic development opportunities, promoting the area's businesses and agricultural interests.



Glacial Heritage Area

GHA Brochure, Page 2



Mission

The GHA's mission is to reconnect people to the land through recreation, conservation and tourism. Tourists from Chicago, Madison, Milwaukee and beyond come to bird watch, hunt, bicycle, fish, photograph, hike, kayak and canoe. Visitors come to learn conservation techniques and about sustainable agriculture. The GHA's strength is in the variety of ways it achieves its mission. There is something for everyone.

The GHA consists of several types of land: conservation parks, river-based conservation areas, linking trails, wildlife and natural areas.

Conservation Parks

Conservation parks provide high-quality opportunities for resident and visitors to engage in outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, mountain biking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing. As the demand grows existing parks will need to be expanded and new parks established. Existing parks slated to be expanded are Cold Spring, Dorothy Carnes, Garman Preserve, Korth Park and Lake Ripley LMD Preserve. The seven new conservation parks to be created are Cushman Mill, Holtzheuer, Hope Lake, North Shore Moraine, Oakland Highlands, Red Cedar Lake and Scuppernon Valley.

River-Based Conservation Areas

Two types of lands along rivers and creeks are part of the GHA. The first is a set of small sites (5 to 10 acres) that will provide recreational access for boaters, paddlers and shore anglers. Rustic campsites accessible from the water are planned for the two larger sites. These sites will provide put-ins and take outs, access for shore anglers and rustic camping.

The second type of river corridor protection will focus on natural resources. Wetlands and floodplain forests that harbor diverse native communities or rare plants and animals along the Lower Bark River, Lower Koshkonong Creek and Allen Creek will be protected.



Linking Trails

About 100 miles of linking trails are planned to meander through the countryside and connect the conservation areas to the nearby cities and villages and one another. The linking trails will offer longer distance biking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing opportunities on relatively flat lands, either off road or separated from vehicle and suitable for people with a range of abilities including children and seniors.

Wildlife and Natural Areas

There are nine State Wildlife Areas in the GHA encompassing more than 25,000 acres of high quality hunting, trapping and wildlife watching opportunities. These properties host an array of grassland, wetland and wooded habitats that are popular destinations for deer, turkey, pheasant, duck and small game hunting. They also offer exceptional bird-watching during the spring and fall migrations.

These areas will be expanded to protect and restore native habitat and offer public hunting, trapping and other rustic outdoor recreation options.

One new property, the Crawfish Prairie Habitat Area will provide critically needed habitat for grassland birds and other related species and two State Natural Areas will be expanded.

Benefits

There are many potential benefits from implementing the GHA Plan. These include:

- Increased recreational opportunities. Estimates indicate that residents and visitors may participate in an estimated additional two million recreational days annually.
- Improved health and quality of life and health. Spending time outdoors participating in outdoor recreation activities has significant benefits to the physical and mental health of participants.
- Economic benefit. Implementation of GHA could potentially result in \$50 to \$100 million in direct travel related spending annually.



GHA Asset Map



9 KORTHPARK

Location
WEST BIA POINT RD
LAKE MILLS, WI 53551
 (43.0707, -88.9431)

Korth Park is located on the west side of Rock Lake near Lake Mills. The trail system is a loop that follows the shore of Rock Lake south to the Glacial Dunes Trail to Cedar Lane. The trail continues to Cedar Lane and around Rock Lake. A picnic shelter is located at the Elm Point Road entrance.

7 GOOSE LAKE WILDLIFE AREA

Location
DODGE CO
DEERFIELD, WI 53529
 (43.0707, -88.9431)

The 2,800 acres of the Goose Lake Wildlife Area is home to deer, pheasant, wild ducks, grouse and blue jays. An extensive wetland area is home to waterfowl. The area is also a great place for bird watching, fishing, and hunting.

GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA

Recreational Opportunities Map

Wildlife viewing, hiking, fishing, and more recreational opportunities are available throughout the area. The map shows various parks, preserves, and wildlife areas connected by trails and waterways.

2 WATERLOO WILDLIFE AREA

Location
STATE HIGHWAY 17
WATERLOO, WI 53186
 (43.1807, -89.1415)

Located in northwestern Jefferson County and southwestern Dodge County about one mile east of the city of Waterloo. The area is approximately 2 miles east to west and 7 miles north to south.

32 STORR'S LAKE

Location
DODGE COUNTY
STORR'S LAKE, WI

13 LAKE MILLS WILDLIFE AREA

Location
LAKE MILLS, WI 53551
 (43.0707, -88.9431)

As a starting point, travel to the southwest of Lake Mills on Hwy A, go north on Hwy J (approximately 1 mile and turn east on Riley Road. Continue east 1 mile to the parking lot on the north side of Riley Road.

10 AZTALAN STATE PARK

Location
LAKE MILLS, WI 53551
 (43.0707, -88.9431)

11 GARMAN PRESERVE

Location
JEFFERSON COUNTY
GARMAN PRESERVE, WI

GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA

Recreational Opportunities



OUTDOOR RECREATION CLOSE TO HOME

The Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) is a network of public lands with over 2,000 acres of trails, lakes, forests, and wildlife viewing opportunities. These properties have a variety of recreational and educational uses. The area is also a great place for bird watching, fishing, and hunting.

There are one Lake Mills trails in the GHA encompassing over 2,000 acres of trails, lakes, forests, and wildlife viewing opportunities. These properties have a variety of recreational and educational uses. The area is also a great place for bird watching, fishing, and hunting.

FAMILY GATHERINGS and PICNICKING

Looking for a scenic picnic spot to enjoy with family and friends? The Glacial Heritage Area has several picnic areas with scenic views, shade, and picnic tables. These areas are perfect for family gatherings and picnicking.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 GARMAN NATURE PRESERVE
 ICE AGE TRAIL SEGMENT
 (KETTLE MORAINE FOREST)

RECREATIONAL and MOUNTAIN BIKING

Enjoy a scenic ride through the Glacial Heritage Area's diverse terrain. The area offers a variety of trails for recreational and mountain biking, including paved paths and rugged terrain.

PLACES
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 KETTLE MORAINE STATE FOREST
 GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA
 GLACIAL RIVER BIKE TRAIL
 WILD GOOSE STATE TRAIL

INDIAN MOUNDS and TRAIL PARK

Discover the rich history of the Glacial Heritage Area through its many trails and parks. The area offers a variety of trails for hiking, walking, and jogging, as well as several parks for picnicking and family gatherings.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 COLD SPRING CREAMERY PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 JEFFERSON COUNTY DOG PARK
 KORTH PARK
 LANGER FAMILY PARK
 POHLMAN PARK
 RILEY DEPPE PARK
 ROCK LAKE PARK
 ROCK RIVER PARK
 ROMAN COUNTY PARK
 WELCOME TRAVELLERS PARK

WILDLIFE VIEWING and BIRD WATCHING

With its diverse natural landscape and over 2,000 acres of trails, lakes, forests, and wildlife viewing opportunities, the Glacial Heritage Area is a great place for wildlife viewing and bird watching. The area is home to a variety of birds, including migratory species.

PLACES
 CARIN WILD PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 INDIAN MOUNDS AND TRAIL PARK
 LAKE RILEY PRESERVE
 RED CEDAR LAKE NATURAL AREA
 ROCK LAKE PARK
 ALL WILDLIFE AREAS

PADDLING

With its scenic views and calm waters, the Glacial Heritage Area is a great place for paddling. The area offers a variety of trails for canoeing and kayaking, as well as several picnic areas for family gatherings.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 COLD SPRING CREAMERY PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 JEFFERSON COUNTY DOG PARK
 KORTH PARK
 LANGER FAMILY PARK
 POHLMAN PARK
 RILEY DEPPE PARK
 ROCK LAKE PARK
 ROCK RIVER PARK
 ROMAN COUNTY PARK
 WELCOME TRAVELLERS PARK

WINTER ACTIVITIES

With its scenic views and calm waters, the Glacial Heritage Area is a great place for winter activities. The area offers a variety of trails for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, as well as several picnic areas for family gatherings.

PLACES
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 CAREN WILD PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 KORTH PARK
 ALL WILDLIFE AREAS

HUNTING and TRAPPING

With its diverse natural landscape and over 2,000 acres of trails, lakes, forests, and wildlife viewing opportunities, the Glacial Heritage Area is a great place for hunting and trapping. The area is home to a variety of birds, including migratory species.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 BURNI VILLAGES PARK
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 KORTH PARK
 LANGER FAMILY PARK
 RED CEDAR LAKE NATURAL AREA
 RILEY DEPPE PARK
 ROCK LAKE PARK
 ROCK RIVER PARK
 DEANVILLE WILDLIFE AREA
 JEFFERSON MARSH WILDLIFE AREA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES and HISTORICAL MARKERS

The Glacial Heritage Area is home to several archaeological sites and historical markers. These sites provide a glimpse into the area's rich history and heritage.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 COLD SPRING CREAMERY PARK
 DODDHY CAINES PARK
 GARMAN NATURE PRESERVE
 JEFFERSON COUNTY DOG PARK
 POHLMAN PARK

FISHING

The Glacial Heritage Area is a great place for fishing. The area offers a variety of trails for fishing, including paved paths and rugged terrain. The area is home to a variety of fish, including bass, bluegill, and crappie.

PLACES
 AZTALAN STATE PARK
 BURNI VILLAGES PARK
 CAMROCK COUNTY PARK
 KORTH PARK
 LANGER FAMILY PARK
 RED CEDAR LAKE NATURAL AREA
 RILEY DEPPE PARK
 ROCK LAKE PARK
 ROCK RIVER PARK
 DEANVILLE WILDLIFE AREA
 JEFFERSON MARSH WILDLIFE AREA

Glacial Heritage Area
GHA On the Web

Dedicated Webpage via Mead and Hunt

<http://www.meadhunt.com/client/gha/index.html>

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Glacial-Heritage-Area/167062183362867>

WDNR

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/glacial/>



Glacial Heritage Area
GHA On the Web

Jefferson County Parks

http://www.jeffersoncountywi.gov/jc/public/jchome.php?page_id=426

Jefferson County Tourism Guide

<http://www.enjoyjeffersoncounty.com/index.asp>



*“Keep close to Nature's heart... and
break clear away, once in awhile, and
climb a mountain or spend a week in
the woods. Wash your spirit clean.”*

~ John Muir

