



SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

PLAY. EXPLORE. EXPERIENCE.



INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE

December 2020



Roseate Spoonbill at the Conejohela Flats in Wrightsville, PA

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our sincerest thanks to the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape Partnership; the Access, Stewardship, and Connectivity Work Group; and the Integrated Land Management Plan stakeholders for participating in the creation of this Plan. We would also like to thank the Lancaster Conservancy for their dedicated staff support in developing this framework for better collaborative land stewardship in the SRCL.

ILMP PARTNERS

Brandon Tennis, *Lancaster Conservancy*
Christian Przybylek, *Lancaster Conservancy*
Brian Heath, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of State Parks*
Nate Brown, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of State Parks*
Paul Zeph, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of State Parks*
Tom Ford, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of Recreation and Conservation*
Lori Yeich, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of Recreation and Conservation*
Stephen Walker, *Pennsylvania DCNR/Bureau of Forestry*
Paul Weiss, *Lancaster County Parks and Recreation*
Michael Fobes, *York County Parks and Recreation*

Lynne Morrison, *Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority*
Steve Ferreri, *Pennsylvania Game Commission*
Eric Horsh, *Pennsylvania Game Commission*
Kevin Clouser, *Pennsylvania Game Commission*
Michael Domin, *Lancaster County Planning Commission*
Anne Walko, *York County Planning Commission*
Rachel Goad, *Pennsylvania Heritage Program/Western Pennsylvania Conservancy*
Jackie Kramer, *National Park Service*
James Hooper, *Mason-Dixon Trail, Inc.*
Tim Schmidt, *Mason-Dixon Trail, Inc.*
Jeff Brethauer, *Lancaster Hiking Club*
Jack Powers, *Lancaster Hiking Club*
Richard Manix, *Lancaster Hiking Club*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview of Plan.....	5
-----------------------	---

BACKGROUND

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape.....	9
Integrated Land Management.....	13
Best Practices for Collaboration.....	16

THE FRAMEWORK

Understanding Barriers to Integrated Land Management.....	22
ILMP Partner Information.....	27
Inventory of Natural Lands and Recreational Assets.....	36
Sub-Region Analysis.....	43

IMPLEMENTATION

Summary of Implementation Matrix.....	49
Implementation Matrix.....	50

APPENDIX

Case Study Analyses.....	58
ILMP Partner Database.....	73
Partner Profiles and Natural Land/Recreational Asset Inventory Forms.....	75
Natural and Recreational Asset Inventory Report.....	156

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



OVERVIEW OF PLAN

Above: Susquehanna River Corridor

Photo Courtesy: Susquehanna National Heritage Area Facebook Page

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP) is to develop a collaborative framework and network of partner organizations and staff working toward a common goal of integrated land management on all publicly accessible natural lands in the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape (SRCL).

Located in both Lancaster and York counties, the SRCL is one of eight Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resource designated “Conservation Landscapes” in the state. The purpose of the Conservation Landscape program is to stimulate coordinated action among regional stakeholders to steward and enhance their natural landscapes through increased land protection, natural and cultural resource stewardship, and sustainable public access. Integrated land management, as it relates to this plan, refers to the coordination of stewardship projects that are regional in scale or involve multiple partners, the sharing of resources so that management activities can be performed more efficiently, and cooperatively addressing common land management challenges.

PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE NATURAL LANDS IN THE SRCL

In south central Pennsylvania, the SRCL consists of 310,225 acres of land. Of this, 16,803 acres (or 5%) are considered to be publicly accessible natural lands. For this project, **publicly accessible natural lands** includes properties that are **conserved, permanently protected through ownership status, or managed by an entity for the public’s use**. This includes state, county, and municipally owned parcels, as well as land owned or managed by non-profit organizations, energy companies, and other entities. The SRCL landscape mosaic is composed of diverse natural land types, ranging from preserved ecosystems, such as forests, meadows, and wetlands, to more heavily manicured lands, such as county and local parks. These lands offer varying levels of public access and infrastructure to support recreation, visitation, and ecosystem management.

A PHASED EFFORT

In 2018, the Lancaster Conservancy identified the need to convene all public land owners and managers together in an effort to collaboratively and holistically steward the natural lands of the

SRCL. The ILMP was then incorporated into the 2019 SRCL Strategic Plan as part of a phased planning effort to realize the SRCL's vision for protecting and enhancing the lower Susquehanna River corridor, while providing for sustainable public access, passive recreation, and engagement with the natural landscape.

PHASE 1: ILMP

To complete the ILMP, the initial development of a coalition and framework to guide the coalition was developed as part of this project. The Access, Stewardship, and Connectivity Work Group provided guidance and expertise throughout the planning process. This phase included a preliminary lands & partner inventory, goals articulation, inventory of resources and needs of land management partners, identification of a framework for collaboration, and implementation strategies.

The ILMP partners consist of agencies and organizations that fall under five categories related to land stewardship including:

- Public Land Managers
- Utility Natural Land Owners
- Self-Organized User Groups
- Resource Providers
- Municipalities

ANALYZING BARRIERS AND NEEDS TO INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT

To develop a collaborative framework for integrated land management, a series of partner engagement activities were employed to collect feedback on barriers to collaboration, land management needs, organizational priorities, and background information on the partners and the land they manage. While land management agencies and organizations are distinct in their priorities and organizational structures, we found that there were some overlapping barriers and needs, as well as a suite of untapped opportunities for collaboratively managing land.

This information was synthesized and organized under four primary themes that are goals of integrated land management in the SRCL. They include:

1. Strategically preserve and steward the SRCL natural landscape.
2. Improve and expand recreational opportunities and a regional trail network.
3. Build broad community support and increase volunteer capacity for stewarding the SRCL.
4. Demonstrate a coordinated approach to maintenance, management, and access to natural lands.

NATURAL LANDS AND RECREATIONAL ASSET INVENTORY

To better coordinate land management activities, a broad understanding of the natural lands in the SRCL and the land management activities that are performed on these lands is crucial. During this project, a natural lands and recreational asset inventory was created and disseminated to the partners engaged in this project. These stakeholders include land managers and non-land managers that offer potential resources related to collaborative land management.

Information was collected on the management activities they perform, recreation facilities, resources they can offer, infrastructure, and how they coordinate their stewardship activities. This provided a baseline understanding of the SRCL natural landscape as it relates to land management.

SUB-REGION ANALYSIS

Additionally, the ILMP also explored subregions within the SRCL to better understand and address the more localized impacts, needs, resources, and opportunities of the region. Through this process, four distinct sub-regions were identified within the SRCL. These include Lancaster County North, Lancaster County South, York County North, and York County South. Each sub-region has 1 majority partner type that owns/manages a substantial percentage of the natural lands (approximately

50-60% of the area) within the subregion. Additionally, each subregion has a unique majority partner type. Each subregion also has an equally large second majority partner type (making up 20-30% of the subregion area). There is potential to identify lead partners within each subregion that could encourage more localized collaboration. This subregion approach also has the potential to enable better communication and collaboration between municipalities and the public land managers. In general, a subregion approach makes the SRCL's scale more manageable for participating organizations/agencies, and more approachable for those looking to join ILMP efforts.

IMPLEMENTATION

In order to reach this shared vision, the SRCL partners will need to work together on a variety

of implementation actions. These actions, together, support the ILMP goals, SRCL Strategic Plan, and the overall SRCL vision. This ILMP is Phase 1 of 3. Phase 2 consists of the completion of two regional comprehensive plans that focus on natural resource protection and passive recreation in the SRCL. Phase 3 is the development of the final ILMP in which information and guidance from Phase 2 inform its outcome. These plans, along with the ILMP, will serve as a foundation for guiding future SRCL land protection and stewardship work. The key implementation actions are nested under these following categories:

- Coalition Building
- Regional Planning
- Resource Sharing
- Volunteer Coordination
- Funding



Above: Steve Mohr Jr, Lancaster Conservancy's Preserves Manager, felling Ailanthus at Fishing Creek South Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Nick Gould

BACKGROUND



THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE

Above: Chickies Rock Overlook

Photo Courtesy: Steve Droter, Chesapeake Bay Program

“Framed by miles of forested rocky cliffs and rolling hills of the high Piedmont, the river and the towns adorning its shores are the **ribbon** that binds this majestic region.”

– Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)

WHAT IS THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE (SRCL)?

Located in both Lancaster and York counties, in south central Pennsylvania, the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape (SRCL) is one of eight regions identified in the state with the purpose of initiating strategic investment and actions around sustainability, conservation, community revitalization, and recreational projects.

The SRCL Partnership was created to work on this initiative. The partnership is a collaboration of communities, organizations, and agencies that seek to steward and enhance this diverse landscape through increased land protection, natural and cultural resource stewardship, and increased public connection to these resources. The region includes 29 municipalities

immediately adjacent to the Susquehanna River and the boroughs there within. The SRCL represents a unique landscape-scale conservation and stewardship framework for partners to collaborate within to achieve a shared vision with potential for broad, regional impact.

SRCL VISION: “The natural lands along the Lower Susquehanna River remain **protected, stewarded, and connected** to each other and the surrounding communities.”

SRCL MISSION: “To protect, preserve, and steward the natural lands along the Lower Susquehanna River, emphasizing **connectivity, eco-system health, and sustainable public access.**”

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The SRCL Partnership consists of a Leadership Team that provides executive guidance and a strategic planning focus on SRCL activities. The Partnership also includes three multi-stakeholder work groups that are working toward the shared vision. The Partnership also holds annual summits and administers a mini-grants program that awards \$50,000 annually for activities

that work towards achieving the vision for the SRCL. Currently, the Lancaster Conservancy, in partnership with DCNR, provides administration and guidance for the SRCL partnership.

CONTEXT

The Integrated Land Management Plan began in 2018 when the Lancaster Conservancy identified the need to convene all public land owners and managers together to steward the natural lands of the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape collaboratively (across boundaries) and holistically (according to natural resource and social science). This reflects the true spirit of the DCNR Conservation Landscape's vision of protecting and enhancing the unique ecology of the lower Susquehanna River corridor, while also providing for sustainable human connectivity, outdoor recreation, and engagement with the natural landscape.

Simultaneously, the Lancaster Conservancy, as the external lead of the SRCL, identified the need for a Strategic Plan to guide the work of

the SRCL Partnership within this state designated conservation landscape. This Plan was completed in December 2019 and solidified the Partnership's needs, recognition, prioritization, and commitment to pursuing the goal of stewarding SRCL public lands collaboratively and holistically.

ILMP PHASING

As part of the Strategic Plan, the SRCL Partnership implemented the Strategic Goal of forming work groups, including the Access, Stewardship, and Connectivity Work Group. This group immediately began working on the ILMP project. This collaborative process began by reviewing the Strategic Plan through the lens of the ILMP. Many of the actions identified in the Strategic Plan require a deeper understanding of the existing publicly accessible natural lands in the region, and the agencies and organizations that manage them. A phasing process was identified as the most appropriate and prudent way to complete the ILMP, and accomplish many of the SRCL Strategic Plan's goals. These phases include:



Above: Northwest Lancaster County River Trail
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority

PHASE I - INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT

PLAN: The initial development of a coalition and a framework to guide the coalition is coming to completion this December 2020. This phase included a preliminary lands & partners inventory, goals articulation, inventory of resources and needs of land management partners, identification of a framework for collaboration, and implementation strategies.

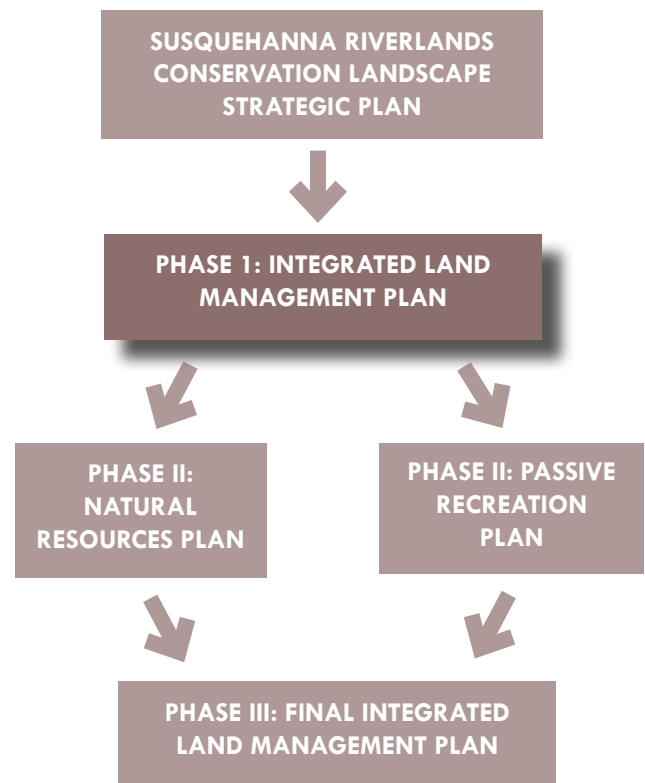
PHASE II - NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN AND PASSIVE RECREATION PLAN:

A comprehensive natural resource plan, passive recreation plan, and associated collaborative projects (to be completed by 2023) will attach the muscle to the skeleton so that the partnership of land managers can begin to move as one. The Natural Resources Plan will include a deeper analysis of public lands, natural resources, ecosystems, and regional land conservation issues and identify opportunities for land protection, conservation, landscape connectivity, habitat improvement, stewardship, and climate change. The Passive Recreation Plan will include a more thorough assessment of existing recreational facilities, amenities, trails, and lands and an identification of passive recreation opportunities and projects. Both Plans will prioritize projects, clarify roles and responsibilities, and identify funding opportunities.

PHASE III - FINAL INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN: A complete ILMP will offer a blueprint defining the coalition, framework, conservation values, collaborative needs, and resources, solidifying the partnership and commitment to the success of the SRCL.

WHAT ARE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE NATURAL LANDS?

For the purpose of this project, **publicly accessible natural lands** include properties that are **conserved, permanently protected through ownership status, or managed by an entity for the public's use**. This includes state, county, and municipally owned parcels; but also includes land



The diagram above shows how the ILMP fits into the larger SRCL initiative.

owned or managed by non-profit organizations and energy companies. Despite varying ownership and management structures, these properties are all largely in a natural state and accommodate a variety of human activities and other ecosystem services.



Above: Turkey Hill Trail Overlook
Photo Courtesy: Bay Journal

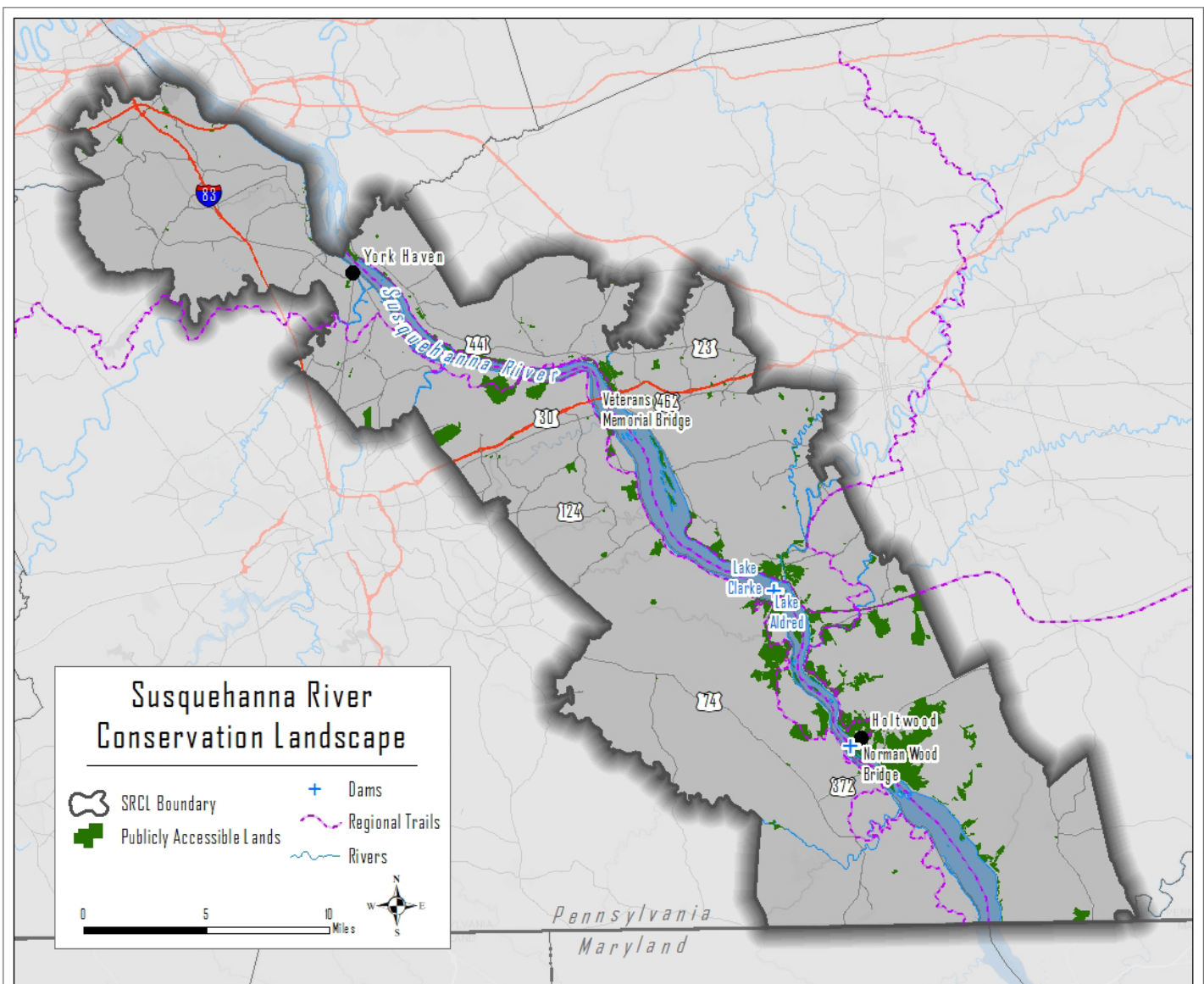
Publicly accessible natural lands represent ~5% of the entire SRCL (16,803 acres). In the SRCL, these include:

- State Parks
- County Parks
- Local Parks
- Nature Preserves
- Regional Trails
- State Game Lands
- Utility-Owned Natural Lands

The map below shows the SRCL outlined in black. Publicly accessible natural lands are shown in green and regional trails are shown in purple.



Above: Conestoga Trail at the Fox Hollow Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Becky Clawson



Above: The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Project Area



INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT

Above: Chestnut Grove Natural Area
Photo Courtesy: Seth Dochter

The purpose of the Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP) is to develop a network of partner organizations and staff working toward a common goal of integrated land management on publicly accessible natural lands.

In order to accomplish this, the SRCL Leadership Team created a scope of work that included the following actions:

- Identify all publicly accessible natural lands and associated land-owners and managers within the SRCL along with the mission, vision, and goals of each.
- Inventory the needs and resources of each land-manager in respects to managing their publicly accessible lands natural lands within the SRCL.
- Establish a coalition of owners/managers of all publicly accessible natural lands within the SRCL.
- Develop and adopt a framework for sharing resources and managing publicly accessible natural lands holistically.
- Align wayfinding and interpretive signage.

This ILMP is where we have documented the work completed on each of these distinct actions. It also identifies implementation actions for future efforts that will ensure the partners continue to collaborate towards the goal of integrated land management on all publicly accessible natural lands in the region. This collaborative framework can be used to identify and address needs within the SRCL as they relate to land management, activities such as habitat preservation, public access, and ecosystem health.

WHAT IS INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT?

Integrated land management includes coordinating stewardship projects that are regional in scale or involve multiple partners, sharing resources so that management activities can be performed more efficiently, and addressing common land management challenges collaboratively. With the existing publicly accessible natural lands identified, understood, and managed in a sustainable manner, the SRCL partners will then be in a position to add new parcels of land to this network and further develop the recreational resources desired within this region.

PLANNING PROCESS

The diagram to the right depicts the planning process that was undertaken to create the ILMP. The process emphasized partner engagement, thorough research of collaborative, regional land stewardship initiatives, and generation of an actionable document.

WHO ARE THE ILMP PARTNERS?

As part of this initiative, a full list of existing and potential ILMP partners were identified to engage in integrated land management activities, projects, and initiatives. These partners include:

- **Public Land Managers:** includes agencies/organizations who manage county parks, state game lands, state parks, nature preserves, etc.
- **Utility Natural Land Owners:** includes public and private utilities
- **Self-Organized User Groups:** includes hiking clubs, trail maintenance groups, etc.
- **Resource Providers:** includes entities that provide important resources to assist in conservation and stewardship activities
- **Municipalities:** includes those who own publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL



Above: Each type of public land is managed to achieve different recreation and stewardship goals. For example, State Game Lands are managed for passive recreation and wildlife habitat. They typically have less amenities other natural lands would and focus primarily on habitat management. Photo Courtesy: York Daily Record

PARTNER IDENTIFICATION

- Identified all land managers and other stakeholders in a database.
- Generated partner profiles with vision, mission, and contact information of each organization.



EXISTING RESOURCE ANALYSIS

- Conducted inventory of publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL.
- Analyzed sub-regions and composition of public land types in the SRCL.



PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

- Hosted 3 meetings with the Stewardship, Access, and Connectivity Work Group and other stakeholders.
- Conducted a land management needs and resources analysis.
- Identified barriers to collaboration and possible solutions.



RESEARCH

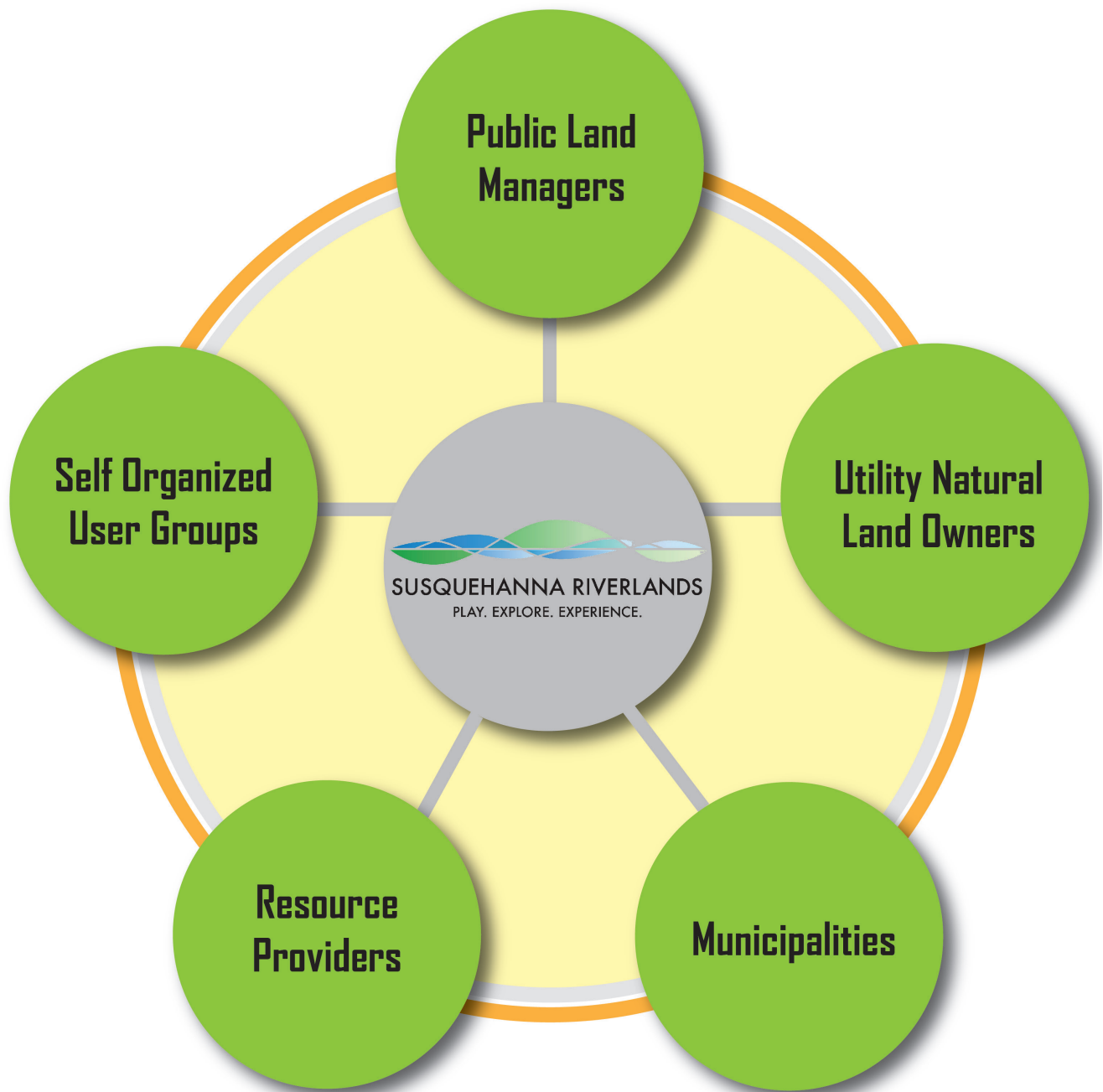
- Conducted a literature review highlighting best practices, common trends, and challenges of similar initiatives.
- Developed case study analyses from similar projects.



PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- Developed a collaboration framework for natural land management and stewardship and sustainable passive recreation coordination.
- Identified SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound) recommendations.

INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT PARTNER TYPES



The diagram above shows the different types of integrated land management partners that are part of this broad coalition. While the work of each organization has significant impact on the region's natural resources, a united approach to tackling common land stewardship challenges, working towards common goals, and addressing natural resource issues together will have long-lasting impacts on the region's ecology and recreational resources as a whole.



BEST PRACTICES FOR COLLABORATION

Above: Turkey Hill Trail Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Bay Journal

The vision for the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape (SRCL) is that natural lands along the Lower Susquehanna River remain protected, stewarded, and connected to each other and their surrounding communities. The mission of the SRCL Partnership is to protect, preserve, and steward the natural lands along the Lower Susquehanna River, emphasizing connectivity, ecosystem health, and sustainable public access. The Strategic Plan outlines core values of the SRCL Partnership including “collaboration and perseverance”, which are reflected in the ILMP project.

Landscape-scale, collaborative partnerships are not new, and are being created nationally to meet shared conservation and stewardship goals of a particular geographic region. Landscape-scale efforts require cross-boundary collaboration from multiple partners to have a lasting, sustainable impact on their natural resources and communities. Collaborative partnerships have the potential to address complex interrelated issues that face landscapes and regions, such as climate change, community resiliency, and economic growth. Identifying best practices for collaborative land management will help the ILMP partners implement the ILMP by building strong

relationships within their coalition, strategically coordinating collaborative projects, and achieving common goals related to ecological health and recreation.

The following best practices for collaborative land management were developed through an extensive literature review and case study analysis. Literature sources can be found at the end of this document and individual case study write-ups are located in the Appendix. This information will provide guidance to partners within the SRCL as they implement the Integrated Land Management Plan and create a strong network moving into the future.

WHY A COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK?

The Texas Hill Country Conservation Network conducted a comprehensive analysis of landscape-scale collaborative partnerships throughout the U.S., and found the most prevalent reasons for participating in this work include:

- **Natural resource management issues are complex and multi-dimensional** requiring varied solutions supported by organizations with a

broad range of skills, programs, strengths, and assets.

- There is value in **coordinating activities to support common goals** centered around a larger region.
- Building political support requires clear, compelling stories and messaging. Networks can help participants **align messaging and strategically coordinate communications**.
- Networks allow participants to **share assets, skills, and resources**.
- Networks can help **attract investment** in both individual organizations participating in the network and in collaborative ventures.

(Texas Hill Country Conservation Network, 2017)

According to multiple sources, collaborative networks related to landscape-scale conservation and management range dramatically in identity, scope, capacity, governance structure, and scale. However, when reviewing a number of studies and resources, several common themes emerged that have helped these groups grow while continuing to evolve and succeed.

BEST PRACTICES

1 CULTIVATE MUTUAL TRUST AND COMMITMENT TO WORKING TOGETHER

Building trust-based, inclusive relationships is one of the best mechanisms to ensure successful collaboration (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network). Oftentimes, trust is where most collaborative efforts fall short or fail to live up to their full potential. When engaging in strategies aimed at increasing trust in a group, remember that the goal is not to have everyone agree with everything, but to be able to work together productively. Trusting relationships involve diverse stakeholders who can hold tension through difficult conversations, engage in regenerative conflict, and find common ground among disparate issues. Participants often need several years of regular communication to build up enough experience with each other to recognize the common motivations behind each of their efforts

(Texas Hill Country Conservation Network, 2017). Communication methods may include regular team meetings, report outs, joint field work, community events, and pop-up cafes. These mechanisms provide opportunities for partners to work closely in each other's environments and in the community, to break down barriers, and to attain greater understanding of each partner's organizational cultural differences. The SRCL annual meetings schedule, which includes 6 STEW meetings, 4 Leadership meetings with Work Group report-ins and requests, and 2 Summits is one tactic for achieving this. This regular meeting schedule and structure will provide a forum for having difficult conversations that are critical for building trusting relationships.

2 CLARIFY PURPOSE AND LEAD WITH A COMMON VISION

While landscape-scale collaboration can seem daunting, a common vision and shared purpose that drives the group's work can help transcend the boundaries, jurisdictions, and agendas that may otherwise impede a collaborative effort (The Sonoran Institute et. al. 2012). A vision for a place typically addresses a compelling set of issues important to all members of the group, catalyzing people, organizations, and agencies to come together. While the important issues facing a region may evolve over time, it's important that the partnership remain flexible and responsive to these changes and to partner's strengths and capacities (National Business Plan Initiative Consultants et. al. 2013). Network leaders should be alert to the relevance of a network's purpose and the shared values that underlie it. This best practice highlights the important ground work that has been accomplished in the SRCL, including the development of the Strategic Plan and associated vision, mission, and goals.

3 CONVENE THE RIGHT PEOPLE

It is important for any network to identify and invite all necessary stakeholders to be involved in the partnership to best achieve the vision the

group has laid out. This includes partners from across resource management sectors (Wright, 2020). It's also important to note that the "right people" are often just the people who show up and stay engaged (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network). Throughout the work, try to accommodate a range of partners and levels of engagement (National Business Plan Initiative Consultants et. al. 2013). While it may take multiple years to engage all the necessary stakeholders, devising a strategic partner engagement plan will help the ILMP partners achieve its goal of full stakeholder involvement. The ILMP Partnership already has many partners who are engaged through the Access, Stewardship, and Connectivity Work Group, but also acknowledges that at the time of drafting this plan, other identified key partners whom are not involved yet should be invited to participate as the partnership evolves.

4 DEVELOP A CLEAR FRAMEWORK OF PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS

While some landscape-scale partnerships are more informal than others, it is important to define a clear governance structure and framework (Leigh Goldberg Consulting, 2016). According to one source, lack of coordination emerges as the most important barrier to respondents' collaborative activities (Wright, 2020). These networks are typically led and advanced by either a dedicated coordinator, a multi-stakeholder steering committee, or a partner organization that provides administrative capacity. This leadership role (which may be filled by one individual or group) is incredibly important for facilitating communication between network members, producing meeting agendas, facilitating consensus building, tracking decisions, holding partners accountable to tasks, supporting member transitions; and maintaining a central hub for shared data, adopted practices, and technical agreements. It is important for the group to be strategic about devising the governance structure to focus on clear decision making processes and overall partnership management

(National Business Plan Initiative Consultants et. al. 2013). Establishing rules of engagement upfront creates an open environment and clarifies group processes (The Sonoran Institute et. al. 2012). Members should also agree on how power is exercised, how decisions are made, how decision makers are held accountable, and how partners have their say. The SRCL Partnership has done an excellent job at clarifying its governance structure and relationships through the Strategic Plan, which defines both Internal/External leads, Leadership Team responsibilities, Work Group structure (each work group led by a Leadership Team member), and annual summits. Regular evaluation of the governance structure as it relates to the implementation of the ILMP will ensure that the coalition functions efficiently.

5 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT AND SHARING OF RESOURCES

One of the largest assets of a collaborative network is that each member agency and organization has their own resources they can contribute to the group, such as providing a meeting space, hosting a website, offering GIS assistance, supplying ecological data, providing technical support, or promoting an event (The Sonoran Institute et. al. 2012). Facilitating the sharing of these resources to complete stewardship projects will improve the efficiency of land management activity in the SRCL. Partners can and should play leadership roles, and actively participate in project tasks.

6 MAKE DATA ACCESSIBLE

Many partners may or may not have access to tools for mapping, remote sensing, scenario planning, monitoring of species, and modeling of climate change impacts which are critical to gaining a holistic view of landscapes. Enabling better sharing of information, materials, and resources will ensure that landscape-scale decisions and projects are carried out with this holistic perspective (The Sonoran Institute et.

al. 2012). Having this data accessible to the partnership creates opportunities for the network to examine gaps and linkages between publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL for future trail connection and strategic conservation initiatives.

7 COORDINATE WITH EXISTING EFFORTS

Consider investing in projects that promote partner-to-partner engagement and coordination of the work each of the partners are already involved in (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network). Coordinating existing efforts enables members to share best practices, pool resources, eliminate duplication of efforts, and offer quick wins that demonstrate the value of collaboration. Opportunities for coordinating with existing efforts might mean collaboration between SRCL Work Groups, and would include coordination of activities to achieve benchmarks set out in the Strategic Plan (specifically, to accomplish one collaborative natural resource project by 2023 and one collaborative passive recreation project by 2024/5).

8 COLLABORATE FOR SYSTEMS IMPACT

To truly achieve systemic impact, it is important for members to identify “leverage points” (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network). Donella Meadows, author of *Thinking in Systems*, said “a small shift in one thing can produce big changes in everything”. Leverage points are opportunities where members can have larger impact by working together than by working alone. Once leverage points are identified, members can partner with each other to implement plans for affecting change. Teams or subcommittees can be formed so that members can play to their strengths for meaningful effects, and where their organization’s priorities align with the shared priorities of the collective (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network).

9 EVALUATE THE NETWORK REGULARLY

Evaluating network effectiveness is critical for the sustainability of any partnership. An ongoing evaluation process addresses questions such as:

- What is emerging as the network takes shape?
- What seems to be working or not working?
- What dynamics are apparent between network members and their organizations?
- What network activities need adjustment or more attention?
- How should network activities be adapted in response to changing circumstances?

10 FOCUS ON BOTH LOW-HANGING FRUIT AND LONGER-TERM PROJECTS

In one resource, interviewees who participate in a landscape-scale partnership pointed out the value of achieving tangible results on the ground early in the process, which can serve as short-term stepping stones that work toward achieving the larger vision (The Sonoran Institute et. al. 2012). These low-hanging fruit projects where partners can quickly agree upon a direction and scope are important in keeping members engaged, increasing group cohesion, and creating a sense of shared accomplishment. They also help achieve the goal of building trust and relationships within the ILMP partner coalition. There are opportunities for the ILMP partnership to identify “low-hanging” collaborative projects to pursue, even while working on the comprehensive plans. This might include short-term projects that are quick to accomplish but move the coalition forward, or they might be smaller tasks that will eventually contribute to larger projects, such as the comprehensive plans.

11 CONSIDER FUNDING SOURCES AND DEVELOP A FUNDING STRATEGY

The external funding strategy for partnership activities should extend from the vision. As this strategy is developed, consider the range

of financial streams, sources, and mechanisms available to support shared activities (National Business Plan Initiative Consultants et. al. 2013). Manage partnership funds for flexible spending and focus on increasing resources for the region as a whole. Consider leveraging intersecting landscape interests to create mixed funding opportunities for partnership activities. The ability to pool matching funds has been described as a benefit of a successful collaborative network (Wright, 2020). One financing mechanism the SRCL Partnership could continue to administer, if funding is available, is the Conservation Landscape Mini-Grant Program. This could help fund priority projects and be distributed to various ILMP partners.

CONCLUSION

While implementing the Integrated Land Management Plan, the ILMP Partnership should keep these broad principles and best practices for successful landscape-scale collaboration in mind as this initiative grows. These findings can provide insight to the ILMP Partners on handling potential challenges, harnessing opportunities for coordinated management activities, and providing inspiration as a path forward is defined.

THE FRAMEWORK



UNDERSTANDING BARRIERS TO INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT

Above: Susquehanook State Park

Photo Courtesy: Bil Bowden of Life As a Snapshot Blog

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

Integrated land management requires collaboration and strong relationships, and this raises many questions. How can partners work together to achieve a common vision of a region? In what ways can partners support each other and the vision for the SRCL as a whole? How can existing initiatives be tied together to support recreation and land stewardship goals?

ILMP Partners identified the importance of collaboration when managing natural lands within the SRCL in the natural lands and recreational asset inventory forms. Some of the reasons for participating in a partnership include:

- Working cooperatively enables partners to better **share resources and knowledge**.
- A collaborative group can **strategically plan and better advocate for** additional conservation of natural lands, improved public access, and additional resources for stewardship.
- Managing land collaboratively is more **efficient**, if done well, and allows partners to **play to their strengths**.

ANALYZING BARRIERS AND NEEDS OF THE ILMP PARTNERSHIP

As a component of the partner engagement phase of this project, barriers to collaboration and integrated land management were analyzed with the Access, Stewardship, and Connectivity Work Group and additional stakeholders. Additionally, each partner was asked to define their organization's needs and resources, which directly link to the implementation actions at the end of this document. While land management agencies and organizations are distinct in their priorities and organizational structures, we found that there were some overlapping barriers and needs, as well as a suite of untapped opportunities for collaboratively managing land.

This information was synthesized and organized under four primary themes that are goals of integrated land management in the SRCL and presented on the next four pages. They include:

1. Strategically preserve and steward the SRCL natural landscape.
2. Improve and expand recreational opportunities and a regional trail network.
3. Build broad community support and increase volunteer capacity for stewarding the SRCL.
4. Demonstrate a coordinated approach to maintenance, management, and access to natural lands.

INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT GOAL #1:

STRATEGICALLY PRESERVE AND STEWARD THE SRCL NATURAL LANDSCAPE

A collaborative framework for integrated land management has the potential to improve ecosystem health, air and water quality, and wildlife habitat throughout the region. Holistically managing interior forests and sub-watersheds will have meaningful, regional impact on the quality of natural resources in the SRCL. Working together as a partnership with strong inter-organizational communication and coordination of land acquisition, conservation, and stewardship will create a better connected natural landscape.

Below are **barriers and needs** to integrated land management that relate to land preservation and stewardship as identified by the partners during the engagement phase of this project.

BARRIERS/NEEDS:

- **Managing carrying capacity of public lands:** Balancing increasing demand for public access while maintaining ecological health of public lands is increasingly emerging as a management challenge shared by partners.
- **Lack of natural resource data and information sharing:** There is a need for greater accessibility of existing natural resource data. This collaborative is an opportunity to develop a shared database to promote evidence based and strategic land management decision making among partners. Sharing data may help the partnership identify potential collaborative efforts. For example, if a particular environmental problem or restoration opportunity exists along the shoreline of the Susquehanna River spanning parcels of multiple owners and land managers, it could be tackled collaboratively to have the greatest impact.
- **Limited staff/volunteers for strategic land management:** Numerous partners (such as the Lancaster County Parks and Recreation, PA Game Commission, and the Lancaster Conservancy) highlighted their need for additional staffing/volunteer capacity (especially for proactive planning) to keep up with land maintenance needs, such as invasive species control.
- **Lack of enforcement of rules and regulations:** Lack of enforcement of rules and regulations on public lands was also identified as a major barrier to land management. Vandalism, littering/dumping, and unauthorized motor vehicle use were noted as issues.



Above: Semipalmated Sandpiper at Conejohela Flats
Photo Courtesy: Alex Lamoreaux



Above: Yellow-Breasted Chat at Apollo County Park
Photo Courtesy: York Audubon Society

INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT GOAL #2: IMPROVE AND EXPAND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND A REGIONAL TRAIL NETWORK

A strong network of land managers and other stakeholders has the potential to develop a well-connected, regional network of trails that serve a wide variety of resident and visitor needs (ages, mobilities, user types, etc.). Collaborative land management can also help achieve shared goals related to recreation and infrastructure planning, including trail construction and maintenance, visitor amenities, and wayfinding, as well as goals related to interpretive and educational programming.

Below are **barriers and needs** to integrated land management that relate to recreation as identified by the partners during the engagement phase of this project.

BARRIERS/NEEDS:

- **Lack of Regional Recreation Planning:** In general, there is a need for continued investment in a regional planning perspective of outdoor recreation in the SRCL.
- **Reporting:** There is no centralized reporting system of problems or issues on existing trails and public lands.
- **Visitor Amenities:** Partners indicated that there are inadequate visitor amenities at select locations in the SRCL. For example, York County Parks and Recreation identified public access and parking needs at Native Lands County Park.
- **Lack of Regional Volunteer Coordination:** Many partners identified a need for well-trained volunteers to engage in trail construction and maintenance on SRCL public lands and trail corridors. There are currently no standardized training or insurance/liability requirements for volunteers, which presents challenges for utilizing volunteers across partners.
- **Need for Sufficient Equipment:** Additional equipment, tools, and materials (and funding for these) was also noted as being a need to complete land management activities by numerous partners, including the Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc. and Lancaster Conservancy.
- **Conflicting User Demands:** Conflicts in user demands (such as horseback riding, hiking, biking, etc) was also noted as a management issue.



Above: The Enola Low Grade Rail Trail
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster County Magazine



Above: Pinnacle Overlook
Photo Courtesy: Richard Hertzle, Lancaster Online

INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT GOAL #3: BUILD BROAD COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND INCREASE VOLUNTEER CAPACITY FOR STEWARDING THE SRCL

The SRCL should focus on inspiring others to care for, enjoy, and explore the larger region and promote an actively involved community. This area has a large population of residents and visitors that can be engaged in stewardship activities and future projects (including volunteers, donors, sponsors, and others). Funding sources should also be assessed collaboratively to help finance future collaborative efforts.

Below are **barriers and needs** to integrated land management that relate to building capacity and funding stewardship initiatives identified by the partners during the engagement phase of this project.

BARRIERS/NEEDS:

- **Untapped Community Support:** A major asset of the SRCL is its large population. This represents an opportunity to harness additional community support for the SRCL and land stewardship activities.
- **Need for Funding:** There is a need for sufficient funding by organizations for staff, equipment, and for routine maintenance. For example, the Mason-Dixon Trail Inc. needs funding resources to purchase tools and materials, and the Lancaster Conservancy needs funds for improvement projects. Funding to match state grants is another need identified by technical assistance providers.
- **Lack of Volunteers and Consistent Training programs:** As mentioned on the previous pages, there is a need for additional volunteers to carry out stewardship activities.
- **Lack of Private Sector Involvement:** The business community is not currently active in the SRCL and land stewardship initiatives. They should be engaged to garner private sector support for integrated land management initiatives in the SRCL, particularly because public lands are an important quality of life factor that attracts and retains employees.



Above: Volunteers participating in Lancaster Water Week
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster Conservancy



Above: Susquehanna Heritage engages the business community by promoting the Riverlands identity and engaging in economic development projects.
Photo Courtesy: Susquehanna Heritage



Above: Community events are a great way to promote public lands.
Photo Courtesy: Susquehanna Heritage

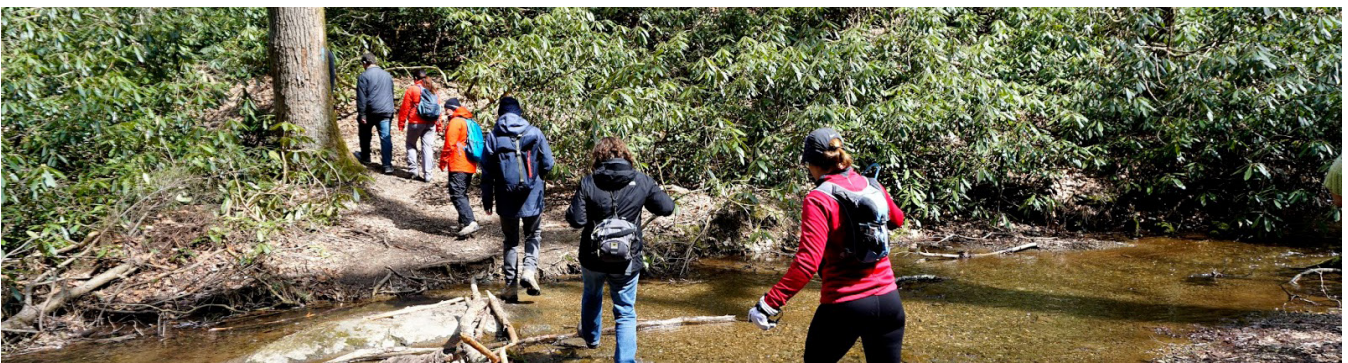
INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT GOAL #4: DEMONSTRATE A COORDINATED APPROACH TO MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT, AND ACCESS TO NATURAL LANDS

There is a strong need for better coordination among partners within the SRCL across shared natural, cultural, and political boundaries. By allocating and utilizing resources efficiently, working across boundaries, and adopting a regional perspective, a culture of integrated stewardship can emerge.

Below are **barriers and needs** related organizing a coordinated approach to land management, identified by the partners during the engagement phase of this project.

BARRIERS/NEEDS:

- **Organizations working in isolation:** Currently, organizations are working in a less coordinated way than desired (“in silos”). Some organizations have limited staff capacity to think beyond their own organization’s needs. Additionally, champions for involvement in regional projects eventually leave the organizations and when that occurs, unless engagement in the SRCL is embedded in the organization’s mission, that commitment may not continue in the future.
- **Limited knowledge of other partner’s work:** Partners do not necessarily know the roles, responsibilities, and land management priorities of other organizations. Many partners are also unaware of the current land acquisition and management projects being worked on by others in the partner network. They also don’t know how other partners are prioritizing their management of lands.
- **A regional perspective is not ingrained in the missions of most other partners:** Regional collaboration is not embedded in the missions of individual partners. Some partners, like Pennsylvania DCNR and Pennsylvania Game Commission, work under regional systems that do not align with the boundaries of the SRCL region, creating potential challenges related to allocating resources, time, and attention to a sub-region that does not fall cleanly within their broader geographic area. Additionally, more of their lands may fall outside of the SRCL, placing their SRCL lands at a lower priority. More resources should be put towards regional planning initiatives for conservation and recreation and to address this barrier.
- **Need municipal engagement:** There is a need to engage additional partners in the integrated land management planning process, such as municipalities that own and manage local publicly accessible natural lands. It can be difficult to coordinate with the various municipal governments within the SRCL, and a clear strategy must be developed to take on this outreach initiative over time through clear, small steps.



Above: A crossing at Kelly's Run Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Adventure Inspired Blog



ILMP PARTNER INFORMATION

Above: Hellham Hills, York County
Photo Courtesy: John Pavoncello, York Dispatch

The ILMP partners consist of agencies and organizations that fall under five categories related to land stewardship including:

- Public Land Managers
- Utility Natural Land Owners
- Self-Organized User Groups
- Resource Providers
- Municipalities

To holistically manage land, the partner organizations must have a basic understanding of each of the individual partners in the coalition, their priorities, and their management needs and resources. This understanding can help the group better coordinate regional projects, align collective goals and initiatives with individual priorities, and address on-the-ground management issues efficiently and collaboratively. Each of these partner organizations are described in further detail on the following pages and are organized by partner type.

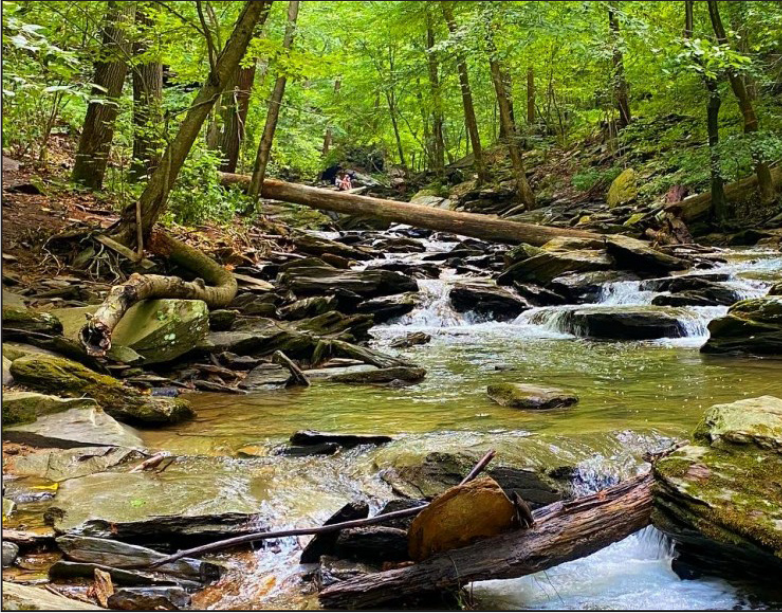


Above: In 2019, the Lancaster Conservancy acquired 49 acres along the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail in Conoy Township, expanding the Conoy Wetlands Nature Preserve, and created the Falmouth Forest Garden. This project highlights how partners can work together to yield amazing results. For this initiative, partners included the Conservancy, Conoy Township, PA DCNR, the Lancaster County Community Foundation, Rotary Club, Pine Tree Conservation Society, Horn Farm, the Lancaster County Bird Club, and the National Park Service.

Photo Courtesy: Susquehanna Riverlands Facebook Page

PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS

Public land managers own and actively manage publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL. They typically have a mix of staff and volunteers that complete land management activities and often partner with other organizations and agencies.



Above: Climber's Run Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Uncharted Lancaster

LANCASTER CONSERVANCY

The Lancaster Conservancy is a private, non-profit land trust that currently protects approximately **4,861 acres** of land within the SRCL through the establishment of nature preserves and by conservation easements. The Conservancy manages land for healthy habitats, clean waterways, outdoor recreation, and public use. Stewardship activities include preserve maintenance (tree removal, trail work, etc.), GIS mapping to guide conservation areas and trail development, forestry services, volunteer engagement, and collaboration with community partners to better protect land and water quality. The Conservancy has dedicated stewardship staff and limited equipment to complete management activities. The Conservancy's highest priority is to purchase and protect additional natural lands in the SRCL and to care for these lands sustainably. As the Conservancy expands into York County, the SRCL is being used as a framework for guiding their efforts to protect land and to engage communities.

Challenges: The Conservancy's biggest land management challenges include a lack of enforcement ability for rules and regulations, achieving a balance between managing recreation and habitat health, invasive species control, insufficient funding for routine maintenance and improvement projects, and a lack of regional planning for coordinated conservation and recreation.

PENNSYLVANIA DCNR/BUREAU OF STATE PARKS/GIFFORD PINCHOT STATE PARK COMPLEX

The DCNR Bureau of State Parks owns and manages approximately **815 acres** of land in the SRCL. They provide opportunities for enjoying outdoor recreation and environmental education.

In meeting these purposes, the conservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic, and historical values of parks should be given first priority. Stewardship activities should reinforce these values and protect the outdoor experience for current and future generations. The goals of State Parks include conserving natural and cultural resources, strengthening relationships between people and the heritage of the Susquehanna River corridor, and supporting economic development grounded in natural resources, outdoor recreation, and tourism. They have a dedicated staff and funding to perform basic land management duties and may have access to additional funding for focused projects. They also have years of expertise and experience to draw upon within the statewide state park system.

Challenges: The Bureau of State Parks' biggest land management challenges include managing public access, recreation, and stewardship. Public

interest in outdoor recreation is hard to manage as government resources shrink. PA State Parks is currently investigating ways to creatively care for lands while also providing a safe and healthy environment for visitors.

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION - LANCASTER COUNTY (PGC)

The PGC's mission is to manage Pennsylvania's wild birds, mammals, and their habitats for current and future generations. PGC manages **87 acres** of game land in Lancaster County, which has regional trail connections. The Conestoga Trail crosses State Game Land #288 in Lancaster County. PGC recognizes that conserving public open spaces and preventing undesirable land use change helps protect wildlife habitat. Their goals include promoting and enhancing wildlife habitat, collaborating with other land managers, and ensuring public lands are available for hunting and trapping opportunities. Land management activities (completed by staff and self-organized user groups) the PGC focuses on include prescribed fires, forest management, native field maintenance, infrastructure maintenance, invasive species control, and law enforcement. The PGC has a number of resources for land management activities including habitat maintenance employees, regional foresters, and biologists. Funding can be allocated to State Game Lands



Above: Rock climbing at Chickies Rock County Park
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster Online

and properties in their cooperative access program. They also have equipment ranging from hand tools to large tractors with implements.

Challenges: PGC's primary land management challenges include the need for more staff and funds to meet forest age distribution goals, forest health, invasive species control, and the overarching issue of land use and ownership fragmentation.

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION- YORK COUNTY (PGC)

The York County PGC office manages approximately **1,148 acres** of land in the SRCL. The Mason-Dixon Trail crosses State Game Lands #83 and #181 in York County. Their vision for these lands is consistent with the Lancaster County PGC office - to manage and improve habitat through the use of agency resources and funding. They have a 3-person staff that manages all game lands in York County with a full complement of equipment to perform stewardship activities.

Challenges: Their biggest challenges to performing land management include lack of staff time and a need for additional funding.

YORK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION (YCPR)

The YCPR strives to be the county leader in environmental conservation, preservation, and education by acquiring, conserving, and managing park lands and offering a variety of recreational and education opportunities. With **616 acres** of public lands in the SRCL, their work reflects sound management principles and a strong organizational commitment to public service. The YCPR also offers a wide variety of programming throughout the year highlighting the area's cultural, historical, and natural history. Some of this work is accomplished through partnerships with other organizations. Within the SRCL, YCPR aims to preserve the historic aspects of Native Lands Park, and to provide high-quality recreational opportunities in Highpoint Scenic Vista Recreational Area and Apollo County Park.

Challenges: YCPR identified managing new types of recreation as a primary challenge (including drone flying, electric bikes, etc.)

LANCASTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION (LCPR)

The LCPR provides facilities and programs to Lancaster County that encourage participation in outdoor activities and fosters personal action for the conservation of natural resources. LCPR owns and manages **361 acres** of land in the SRCL. Their management activities include trail maintenance, mowing, invasive species control, planning and development, and wildlife species management (i.e. hunting regulations). This includes one of its nine County parks (Chickies Rock County Park), where LCPR would like to focus on providing visitor amenities and managing public use and natural resources sustainably. The Northwest Lancaster County River Trail crosses through Chickies Rock County Park. They offer environmental education programs, coordinate a park ranger program to provide enforcement, and manage recreation facilities and trails. Both

staff and volunteers are utilized to complete management activities. LCPR receives funding from Lancaster County and has extensive experience related to parks and recreation management.

Challenges: The biggest land management challenges for LCPR include vandalism, creation of non-sanctioned trails, safety compliance, wayfinding within the County Park, and managing conflicting user demands.

PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION (PFBC)

The mission of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is to protect, conserve, and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities. PFBC is an independent Commonwealth agency. They've developed a Susquehanna River Management Plan, which guides the actions of the PFBC.

UTILITY NATURAL LAND OWNERS

Both public and private utility land owners in the SRCL have shown significant support for outdoor recreation, conservation of natural resources, and land preservation. Utility land transfers have generated a large amount of permanently protected land in the SRCL. These public-private partnerships will continue to be an important mechanism to preserving and stewarding more natural lands within the region in the future.

LANCASTER SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (LCSWMA)

LCSWMA's mission is to manage waste as a resource to protect and benefit the communities of Lancaster County and to achieve their vision of a sustainable future. The LCSWMA owns **965 acres** of publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL, including Chestnut Grove Natural Area and a section of Turkey Hill Trail. They were also instrumental in helping develop the 14-mile Northwest Lancaster County River Trail. LCWSMA

partners with the Lancaster Conservancy and Conoy Township to manage natural lands.

BROOKFIELD RENEWABLE PARTNERS

Brookfield Renewable Partners is a hyrdoelectric energy company that has donated a significant amount of natural lands to the Lancaster Conservancy for preservation. In 2018, the energy company donated **500 acres** of forested land in the River Hills section of the Susquehanna Riverlands, spreading across Lancaster and

York Counties. In Lancaster, the Conestoga Trail connects many of these properties. In York, the Mason-Dixon Trail similarly connects these open space parcels.

The Conservancy leveraged donations as matches to public funding in order to preserve additional land in the Riverlands it otherwise would be unable to protect. Brookfield Renewable Partners donated tracts that have contributed to the Conowingo Pond Nature Preserve and the Pequea Nature Preserve. Since the Conservancy's

partnership with Brookfield Renewable Partners began, **1,800 acres** of permanently protected land for public use has been transferred from the utility company.

EXELON

Exelon Energy Company runs three major hydroelectric dams on the lower Susquehanna River and owns waterfront land as part of dam operations. They also own the Conowingo Islands and the Muddy Run Reservoir and adjacent uplands habitat, which have high

THE PPL PROJECT

In the 1990s The Conservation Fund and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) joined together to fund a study of the almost 40,000 acres of utility lands within the lower Susquehanna. As a result of this study, a large landscape land protection project known as the PPL project came into being. In 2010, after working with a committee of utility, federal, state, local, and non-profit leaders, PPL Electric Utilities (PPL) entered into an agreement with Lancaster Conservancy, York County, and PA DCNR to transfer lands to the Conservancy and York County, and enter into conservation easements with PA DCNR, York County, and the Conservancy in 3 phases, valued at over \$10 million, and this project was funded with a total of \$6 million from PA DCNR, the Conservation Fund, and the Counties of York and Lancaster. In an unusual structure, Lancaster Conservancy would purchase lands totaling \$6 million from PPL. PPL would then donate the \$6 million into an endowment fund for the care of the land. Additionally, PPL agreed to 20 years of annual contributions to the endowment. Since the project lands were appraised at over \$10 million dollars those remaining lands not paid for would be donated.

The first phase involving transferring several hundred acres of lands in Lancaster County in Manor and Martic Townships was completed in

2010 and the endowment fund was established. The second phase required removal of around 1,260 acres in Lancaster and York Counties from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) boundary for transfer to the Conservancy. In December of 2012, FERC handed down a landmark decision permitting the removal of lands from the FERC boundary based on the management and protection of those lands as part of the conservation landscape. This was an unusual decision and one supported by the Governor, NPS, Fish and Wildlife, and other state and local agencies, and national and local non-profits.

These phase 2 lands have been transferring to the Conservancy since 2013 despite the sale of Holtwood Dam and the lands from PPL to Talen Energy, and then from Talen Energy to Brookfield Renewable. Through 4 Conservancy CEOs and 2 state administrations, work within the Conservation Landscape continued with the Conservancy serving as the External Lead in partnership with local businesses, landowners, non-profits, and national, state, and local governments. The donated lands have been leveraged to preserve additional acreage and today this landmark project has protected 2,360 acres within the Conservation Landscape, provided over \$6 million in Stewardship funds, and created a multi-faceted approach to large landscape protection drawing on local community support.

conservation value for land protection. They own approximately **508 acres** of natural lands in the SRCL.

SAFE HARBOR AND CLEAN POWER CO.

Safe Harbor and Clean Power offers waste management, emergency spill response, industrial cleaning and maintenance, recycling services, and power generation services. The Safe Harbor Park and Safe Harbor Nature Preserve represent two natural areas with ties to Safe Harbor and Clean Power. Safe Harbor owns **572 acres** of natural land in the SRCL.

PECO ENERGY

PECO Energy, an electric utility company, owns

Muddy Run Park, PECO Energy Recreation Land, and Muhlenberg Preserve, totaling up to **2,673 acres** of natural lands and all of which are located in the southern end of Lancaster County.

PPL ELECTRIC UTILITIES

PP&L Electric Utilities has played a prominent role in natural land protection in the SRCL (described in more detail on page 27). They own a significant amount of natural lands (**1,435 acres**) in the SRCL and have transferred much of their lands to the Lancaster Conservancy. Natural lands that PP&L owns include the PP&L Environmental Preserve, River Island, Observation Road Recreation Area, and Wind Cave.

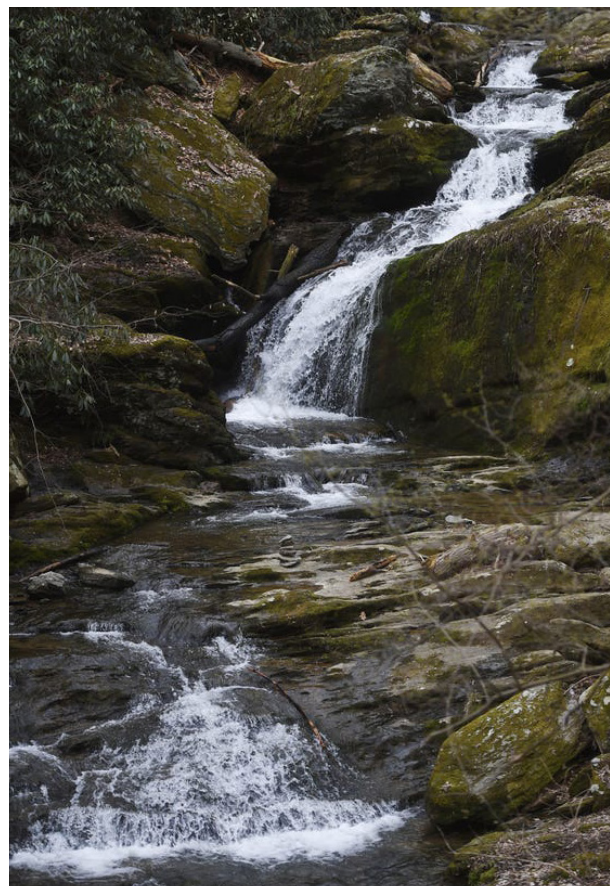
SELF-ORGANIZED USER GROUPS

Volunteer-run self-organized user groups are crucial for completing regional trail maintenance and helping with management activities on publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL. These groups need a consistent volunteer base, training opportunities to build skills, and an organizational system to complete management activities effectively.

LANCASTER HIKING CLUB

The Lancaster Hiking Club is dedicated to promoting outdoor recreation, appreciation of the environment, and stewardship of the 60-mile Conestoga Trail System. The club has equipment and volunteers who maintain the Conestoga Trail for public enjoyment and organize trail work days and group hikes. Maintenance activities include blazing, trail construction, upgrades, and debris removal.

Challenges: Managing conflicting user demands is a primary land management challenge. There are no enforceable regulations on what activities are permitted on the Conestoga Trail System (only on the lands they cross and sometimes its inconsistent with other lands), so its hard to manage various users. They also need more volunteers - their existing volunteer base is



Above: Mill Creek Falls on the Mason-Dixon Trail in York County

Photo Courtesy: Kate Penn, York Daily Record

aging and new members are needed to keep functioning as a club.

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, INC.

The Mason-Dixon Trail is a 200 mile trail that cross three states - Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware. It follows the Susquehanna River on the York side of the river from Brunner Island to Havre de Grace and connects to another Conservation Landscape west of Dillsburg, PA. Some of the most beautiful sections of this trail are located in the SRCL. The goal of this volunteer-run organization is to maintain the trail, and to move more of it off of roadways.

This member organization has volunteers from four different states, and trail work tools and equipment.

Challenges: When it was first constructed, many of the roadways the trail is located on were dirt. Now that most roads are paved, moving the trail off roads is important for user experience and safety. To do this, the trail group must obtain permanent rights of way, or work with partners to purchase adjacent land. Similarly to the Lancaster Hiking Club, this group also needs more volunteers.

RESOURCE PROVIDERS

Resource providers do not own or manage publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL. However, they provide important conservation and stewardship resources to assist in planning for conservation and recreation management, access to funding sources, and other technical assistance.

YORK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (YCPC):

The YCPC guides sustainable development and preservation to improve quality of life in York County communities. The SRCL extends to the eastern border of York County. The YCPC is focused on achieving a balance between economic development and natural resource protection, as well as facilitating coordinated planning for protection of open space. They provide GIS and planning assistance to those who manage publicly accessible natural lands, and have regular communication with municipalities within York County.

LANCASTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (LCPC)

LCPC is focused on preserving the special, unique qualities of Lancaster County, including its farmland, vibrant urban places, and outstanding natural areas. Being an organization grounded in regional planning, LCPC is working to create more places to enjoy nature, preserve open space, and improve water quality in the SRCL.

LCPC does not directly manage natural lands in the SRCL, but does provide land protection assistance to public, private, and non-profit entities to preserve land (such as GIS mapping), facilitation services, and other planning assistance. They also have regular communications with municipalities as well.



Above: Northwest River Trail
Photo Courtesy: Borough of Marietta, PA

PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM (PNHP)

The PNHP is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. PNHP is a member of NatureServe, which is an international network of natural heritage programs that gather and provide information on the distribution and quality of ecological resources. Their purpose is to provide current, reliable, and objective data and analysis to help guide conservation work and land-use planning.



*Above: Toad at Climbers Run Nature Preserve
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster Conservancy*

Though PNHP does not hold land in the SRCL, there are a number of botanical hotspots that occur along the Susquehanna River (places with high densities of rare species that represent high priorities for conservation, research, and management). Their goal is to collect and provide updated information about these species and to make this data accessible to further advance conservation and stewardship goals.

DCNR/BUREAU OF FORESTRY/WILLIAM PENN DISTRICT: The mission of the Bureau of Forestry (BOF) is to promote forestry, sustainable land use, and the protection of water resources and native plants. They have significant knowledge and experience in land and vegetation management and strive to demonstrate and educate forestry practices on state forest lands. For this agency, the SRCL is a central part of DCNR's goals. The BOF sees potential to demonstrate large-scale cooperative land management to complete high priority projects and would like to contribute in relevant initiatives where it can, especially where the SRCL goals coincide with BOF's mission. While the William Penn District does not own any

lands in the SRCL, it has an interest in promoting sustainable land management on natural lands, and see opportunities to develop partnerships to teach sustainable management techniques. Their biggest challenges to land management are controlling invasive species (both insects and plants), controlling deer population impacts, and controlling littering, dumping, and unauthorized motor vehicle use. Because BOF does not hold lands in the SRCL, they see their role as being supportive to other land managers and sharing their resources.

DCNR/BUREAU OF RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (BRC) builds connections between citizens and the outdoors through recreation enhancement, natural resource conservation, and community revitalization efforts. BRC partners with communities and organizations across Pennsylvania to provide grants and technical assistance support for local recreation projects, trails and greenways, heritage areas, open space, river conservation, and environmental education programs. Their goals are to support conservation

initiatives and to promote opportunities for people to experience the outdoors.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH CHESAPEAKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resources conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world. While NPS does not own any

land in the SRCL, the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail is a water-based trail commemorating Captain Smith's exploration of the Chesapeake Bay in the early 1600s. The vision for the trail is to help millions of people in this broad region to experience, envision, and understand what the inhabitants and explorers of the region saw 400 years ago. As part of their work with this trail, major goals include expanding access to the Bay and rivers, educating the public on natural and cultural history, providing recreational opportunities, and by creating partnerships among citizens, groups, and jurisdictions to realize the vision.

MUNICIPALITIES

There are 29 municipalities within the SRCL that own and manage publicly accessible natural lands in the form of local parks and municipal public lands.

As the ILMP partnership develops and evolves over time, engagement of municipalities should be a priority, whether that be representatives from conservation commissions, local parks departments, or other related boards and committees. Currently, there is limited engagement from municipalities in the ILMP project, yet there is opportunity to strengthen relationships with communities to address mutual challenges and common goals related to natural land management.

For example, Wrightsville Borough manages Riverfront Park, which is about 20 acres of natural land in the SRCL. This Park offers trails, water access for fishing and boating, and interpretive/educational programming. The Mason-Dixon Trail crosses through Riverfront Park. Their biggest challenges for land management include a need for funding and the presence of site constraints that pose limits on certain projects (wetlands, flooding, etc.). They envision the community park having a regional trailhead for multi-modal use to expand visitor connectivity. Additional outreach should be conducted to learn about opportunities to collaborate with municipalities on land stewardship projects.



Above: Enola Low Grade Rail Trail
Photo Courtesy: Lancaster County Magazine



INVENTORY OF NATURAL LANDS AND RECREATIONAL ASSETS

Above: Susquehanna River
Photo Courtesy: Discover Lancaster

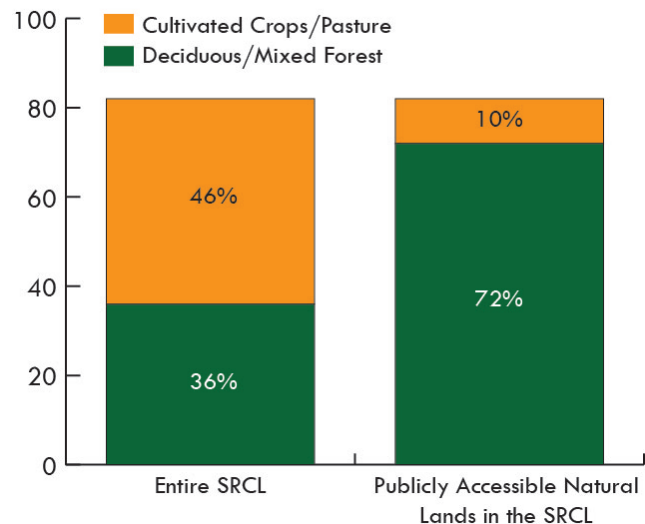
The SRCL is a complex landscape with multiple types of landowners and managers. It's composed of a variety of natural land types, ranging from preserved ecosystems, such as forests, meadows, and wetlands, to more heavily manicured lands, such as county and local parks. Each of these land types offer varying levels of public access and infrastructure to support recreation, visitation, and ecosystem management. However, together these properties represent a mosaic of natural lands within the SRCL that do not exist in isolation of each other.

To better coordinate land management activities, a broad understanding of the natural lands in the SRCL and the land management activities that are performed on these lands is crucial. During this project, a natural lands and recreational asset inventory was created and disseminated to a list of identified stakeholders. These stakeholders include land managers and non-land managers that offer potential resources related to collaborative land management. The Natural and Recreational Asset Inventory Report contains more specific information and is located in the Appendix. We also cross-referenced this information with the Lancaster Conservancy's GIS database of publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL.

LAND COVER IN THE SRCL

Physical land types such as forest, wetlands, cropland or developed land is one feature often used to analyze the makeup and distribution of natural communities at the landscape scale. Of the entire SRCL region, agricultural land (cultivated crops and hay/pasture) represents a cumulative 46% of land cover, compared to 36% forestland. However, in contrast, agricultural land only represents about 10% land cover in publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL, and 72% of the land area is forestland.

Dominant Land Cover



This finding shows that although the majority cover types in the SRCL are agricultural, only 10% of them are publicly accessible. Conversely, while deciduous and mixed forests make up a little more than one-third of the cover types in the entire SRCL, nearly three quarters of them are publicly accessible. It is clear from this data that the emphasis of publicly accessible natural lands is on forested areas within the SRCL. Please note that the land cover data does reflect inaccuracies, preventing us from taking a finer-grain look at land cover in various sub-regions of the SRCL. It is recommended that during Phase 2 (Natural Resource Plan) of the ILMP, more accurate and up-to-date data sources are analyzed to better understand land cover in the SRCL and its implications.

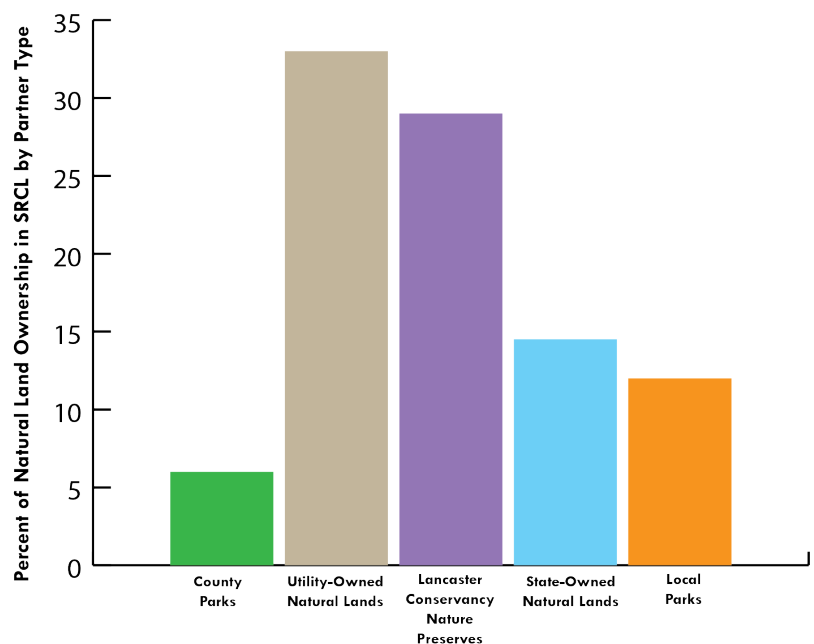
LAND MANAGEMENT AND OWNERSHIP

There is 310,225 acres of land within the SRCL. Of this, 16,803 acres (or 5%) are considered to be publicly accessible natural lands. An excel spreadsheet developed using GIS mapping highlights ownership, management, and acreage of all natural lands within the SRCL can be found in the Appendix. As part of this inventory, we collected information on who the primary land managers and owners are in the SRCL, and what percentage of their lands make up the region.

A land ownership/management summary table on the top right of this page combined data from GIS and from the findings we received in the inventory forms. The bottom right of this page includes a bar graph showing distribution of natural lands by partner type. It was only possible to account for 94% of the SRCL public lands during the first phase of this ILMP project, based on the data available. As the GIS data becomes more refined, the ILMP partners should be able to create an even more accurate picture of land

OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT OF SRCL PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE NATURAL LANDS

Entity	Land Owned and/or Managed in the SRCL	% of SRCL Public Natural Lands
Lancaster Conservancy	4,861 acres	29%
County Parks	977 acres	6%
York County Parks and Recreation	616 acres	4%
Lancaster County Parks and Recreation	361 acres	2%
State Agencies	2,321 acres	14%
PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks	815 acres	5%
PA Game Commission	1,235 acres	8%
Utility Companies	5,464 acres	33%
LCSWMA	965 acres	6%
Exelon	508 acres	3.1%
Brookfield Renewable	41 acres	0.2%
PP&L Electric Utilities	1,435 acres	9%
Safe Harbor Water and Power Co.	572 acres	3.5%
PECO Energy	2,673 acres	16%
Municipalities	1,923 acres	12%



ownership in the region. This should include building out the local parks data to understand how much acreage is owned/managed by specific municipalities (right now, there are gaps in this information).

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Based on the responses to the survey, the following land management activities are performed within the SRCL:

- **Ecosystem and habitat management** such as rare plant and wildlife conservation activities, invasive species control, prescribed burning, forest thinning, and mowing for meadow management.
- **Recreational facility management** including trail construction and maintenance, adding and maintaining amenities such as parking, and upgrading infrastructure as needed.
- **Enforcement of regulations** on natural lands related to recreation, public access, and land use.

Most of the agencies and organizations that manage lands in the SRCL have individual management plans developed for some or all of their lands. However, some partners indicated many of their land's management plans do not align with adjacent property's land management goals, revealing a lack of cohesion among land management currently.

MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Land managers also ranked their most important land management priorities that their organization/agency considers in their work. The following land management priorities are organized from highest to lowest, based on the responses we received from participating organizations:

1. **Wildlife habitat**
2. **Passive recreation**
3. Active recreation
4. Active forestry
5. Invasive species control
6. Environmental restoration
7. Water quality
8. Climate change
9. Active farmland
10. Agroforestry

Wildlife habitat and passive recreation were unsurprisingly the most important management priorities for these organizations, given that habitat preservation and recreation is a common theme among the individual organization's missions, services, and programming. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defines **active recreation** as structured individual or team activities that require the use of special facilities, courses, fields, or equipment, such as soccer and basketball. **Passive recreation** activities, such as hiking and biking, do not require prepared



Above: Columbia Crossing Trail Center
Photo Courtesy: Tracy McLaughlin

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SRCL WITH SAMPLE LOCATIONS



facilities like sports fields or pavilions. Passive recreational activities also place minimal stress on a site's resources, and as a result, they can provide ecosystem service benefits and are highly compatible with natural resource protection. Active recreation was ranked as the third highest priority. This should be explored further in the Comprehensive Recreation Plan.

Active forestry was ranked as the fourth highest priority. Pennsylvania State Extension defines **active forestry** as management that involves harvesting or cutting trees to create desired future conditions. Agroforestry, active farmland, and climate change were ranked as the lowest management

priorities for partners. The Northeast-Mid Atlantic Agroforestry Group, which has a strong presence in Pennsylvania, defines **agroforestry** as agricultural practices that incorporate trees and shrubs for cultivation and conservation. This includes the use of alley cropping, silvopasture, forest farming, riparian buffers, windbreaks, and hedgerows.

ACCESS AND ACTIVITIES

The image above shows the activities permitted (or not specifically prohibited) on SRCL lands, and a few example locations of where these activities can be experienced.

REGIONAL TRAILS IN THE SRCL

Trail	Miles of Trail Located in the SRCL	Trail Manager(s)	Land Managers with Adjacent Land
Mason-Dixon Trail	65 miles	Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> York County Parks and Recreation Pennsylvania Game Commission Wrightsville Borough Lancaster Conservancy DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Conestoga Trail	23 miles	Lancaster Hiking Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancaster Conservancy DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Enola Low Grade Rail Trail	12 miles	Multiple Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancaster Conservancy Manor Township Conestoga Township Martic Township
Northwest Lancaster County River Trail	17 miles	Multiple Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancaster Conservancy Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority Lancaster County Parks and Recreation Columbia Borough West Hempfield Township
Captain John Smith Historic Water Trail	41 miles	National Park Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

PARKING

While many natural lands within the SRCL do have their own parking areas, some agencies have constructed parking facilities that serve multiple properties, sometimes with different land owners/managers. For example, parking areas for accessing the Mason-Dixon Trail System are all located on other lands. Fox Hollow Nature Preserve, managed by Lancaster Conservancy, shared parking with Gamelands 288, managed by the PA Game Commission.

Thirty percent of respondents noted that the parking facilities they manage are not adequate in terms of capacity. One factor contributing to this could be the COVID-19 pandemic, which has spurred greater interest in outdoor activity on public lands, increasing demand on infrastructure. A number of partners indicated that some of their lands have parking facility needs including Lancaster Conservancy, Mason-Dixon Trail System Inc., the PA Game Commission, and DCNR/Bureau of State Parks. Hiking has increased dramatically

in popularity in the SRCL resulting in multiple organizations seeing parking capacity issues.

TRAILS

Since not all trails in the SRCL are mapped and consolidated in a single database, there is not a record of the overall trail network that exists within the SRCL. However, there are four regional hiking/multi-modal trails that cross through or near many of the publicly accessible natural lands in the region and one regional water trail. The table above shows which land managers/owners have public lands where a regional trail is accessible.

AMENITIES

The highest ranked amenities that agencies and organizations prioritize include parking, interpretive signage, restrooms, and wayfinding. It is important to note that some land managers indicated that their lands do not have adequate amenities. This should be explored further in Phase II of this project.

Additionally, each land manager has varying amenity needs. For example, the Game Commission manages lands for passive recreation use, so parking and signage is sufficient for many properties (as opposed to a visitor center, which may require potable water, restrooms, etc). The Inventory Report in the Appendix includes some information on parking areas that need upgrading and other amenity needs. However, a more detailed analysis of amenities should be conducted in the SRCL Recreation Plan.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Most land managers whom responded to the inventory form noted that they are in a cooperative agreement with another agency/organization(s). A cooperative agreement refers to a formalized relationship between at least two organizations to complete management duties on a parcel of land.

For example, Lancaster Conservancy and the PA Game Commission have a cooperative agreement for public hunting, enforcement, and funding/technical assistance for habitat and access improvements. Lancaster County Parks and Recreation is in a formal agreement with the South-Central Pennsylvania Climbers, who provide assistance and maintenance of climbing trails at Chickies Rock County Park. According to this information, some collaboration on land management activities is already happening in the SRCL but there are many additional opportunities to explore.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

According to partners, a mix of staff and volunteers (including the general public, friends of groups, and self-organized user groups) assist staff in performing land management activities in the SRCL. In general, most organizations and agencies indicated a need for volunteers to complete land management work, and noted that finding quality volunteers to help with management work can be challenging. This presents an opportunity to develop a

collaborative volunteer program to share scarce resources, provide training, and create consistent volunteer guidelines. Below is information about each organization's volunteer requirements and partnerships.

PA GAME COMMISSION

- **Required Volunteer Training:** chainsaw and other gas-powered equipment, manual/hand tool use, plant identification, prescribed fire certification
- **Does agency provide trainings?** Yes
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers, certificates of trainings
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** PA/DCNR, Lancaster Conservancy, Ruffed Grouse Society, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, National Wild Turkey Federation, Fort Indiantown Gap, Middle Creek Volunteers, and various qualified individuals for prescribed fires

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

- **Required Volunteer Training:** chainsaw, plant identification
- **Does agency provide trainings?** Yes
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** PA DCNR/Bureau of State Parks, PA Game Commission, Corporations, Trail Organizations, Plant Conservation Groups, Regional Conservancies

MASON-DIXON TRAIL, INC

- **Required Volunteer Training:** chainsaw
- **Does agency provide trainings?** Yes
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers, trail easements, certificate of trainings
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** York Hiking Club, Chester County Hiking Club, Wilmington Trail Club, PA DCNR/Bureau of State Parks, PA DCNR/Bureau of Forestry, Brookfield, Exelon, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

LANCASTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

- **Required Volunteer Training:** manual/hand tool use, plant identification
- **Does agency provide trainings?** No
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers, certificate of insurance
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** South Central Pennsylvania Climbers, Lancaster Soaring Society, PA Fish and Boat Commission, Susquehanna Regional Police Department

YORK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

- **Required Volunteer Training:** manual/hand tool use
- **Does agency provide trainings?** No
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** Zimmerman House

PA DCNR/BUREAU OF STATE PARKS

- **Required Volunteer Training:** chainsaw, other gas powered equipment, manual/hand tool use, plant identification
- **Does agency provide trainings?** Yes
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers, certificate of trainings

- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** PA DCNR/Bureau of Forestry, PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Game Commission

LANCASTER CONSERVANCY

- **Required Volunteer Training:** chainsaw, other gas powered equipment, manual/hand tool use, plant identification
- **Does agency provide trainings?** Yes
- **Required Documentation of volunteers/volunteer groups:** waivers, certificate of insurance
- **Land Management Partnerships with other Organizations:** PA Game Commission, Donegal Trout Unlimited, Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc., Municipalities, US Department of Agriculture

Because volunteer capacity is a prominent land management issue, there is significant potential to collaborate on trainings so that volunteers become certified to manage land for multiple organizations, rather than just one. Similarly, if documentation was somewhat consistent, a shared volunteer base between organizations is possible.



SUB-REGION ANALYSIS

Above: Native Lands Park
Photo Courtesy: Nicholas A. Tonelli

THE VALUE OF SUB-REGIONS

Considering the diverse and nuanced interests impacting different areas of the SRCL, the Integrated Land Management Planning approach should be equally dynamic and provide strategic solutions. For this reason, a subregion approach was employed to better understand and address the more localized impacts, needs, resources and opportunities of the SRCL. There are many reasons subregions have been identified in the SRCL, but most importantly, they offer the following benefits:

- A subregion approach makes the SRCL's scale more manageable for participating organizations/agencies, and more approachable for those looking to join;
- Key/lead agencies can be identified within each subregion acting as local leads to encourage more localized collaboration;
- More place-specific identities can be applied to the unique areas of the SRCL which increases the possibility of buy-in and empowerment;
- This will help with local buy-in of the SRCL among organizations/agencies because they see themselves more reflected in their localized subregion, and yet part of a landscape scale initiative (directly addressing

SRCL Strategic Plan Goal: generating more buy-in from municipalities);

- Subregions could take advantage of different funding sources by highlighting subregion-specific criteria or needs;
- Funding opportunities could be more equally distributed and focused on the needs or solutions found in the sub-region;
- This approach will enable better communication and collaboration between municipalities and the public land managers within them.

THE PROCESS

In order to employ a subregion approach to the ILMP, a deep analysis of the distribution and management type of publicly accessible lands within the SRCL was conducted. A closer inspection of methods and results of this subregion analysis are discussed in the appendix. The first step in the analysis was to define the boundaries. Though several boundary options were explored (based on cultural features, municipal boundaries, and ecological communities), a hybrid approach was taken. The final boundaries of this analysis include the Susquehanna River, which serves as an east and west boundary line, and the municipal boundaries closest to Route 30, which serve as a north-south boundary line. In York County

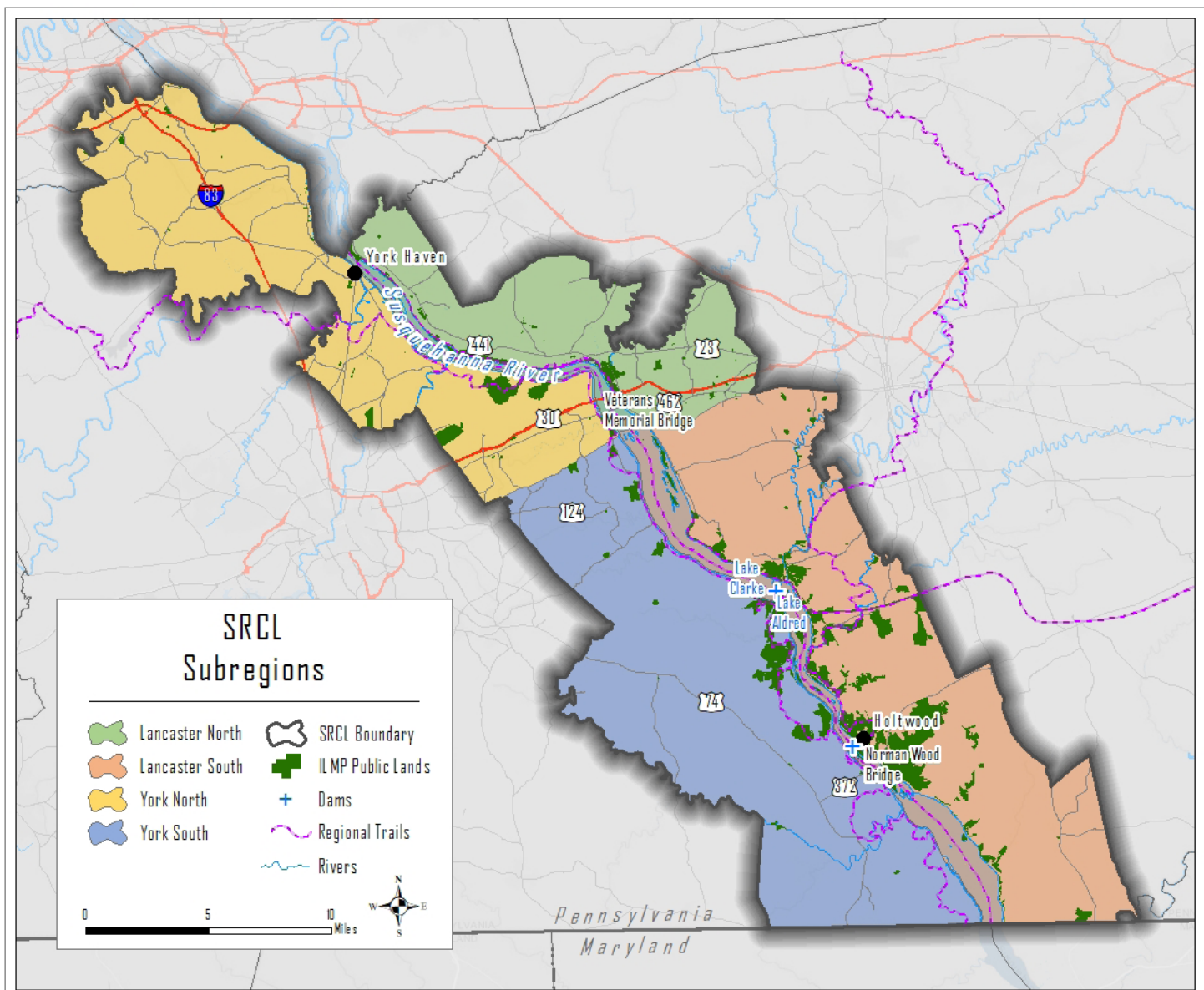
the boundary is between Hellam Township and Lower Windsor Township; and in Lancaster County between West Hempfield Township and Manor Township. The York and Lancaster north/south boundaries, although political due to municipal boundaries, is supported by landscape features (i.e. ridges) as well. With the goal of increasing municipal engagement in the SRCL, it is important to maintain those municipal borders. The map below shows the subregions selected for further analysis of the distribution of publicly accessible natural lands and their management types. The pie chart to the right shows the breakdown of the entire ILMP area by sub-region.

THE ANALYSIS

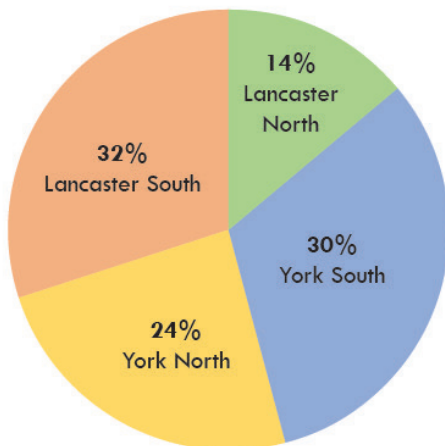
The entire SRCL area is 310,225 acres with subregion acreages falling between 42,640 – 99,642 respectively. Publicly accessible natural lands represent ~5% of the entire SRCL (16,803 acres).

ILMP PUBLIC LANDS BY SUB-REGION

The pie chart to the right shows the distribution of natural lands by sub-region. Lancaster South contains the majority of all publicly accessible natural lands within the SRCL. While it makes up 1/3rd of the SRCL region, it contains 2/3rds of all publicly accessible natural lands. Despite Lancaster North being the smallest subregion in the SRCL, it



ILMP Area by Sub-Region



has the highest percentage of municipally owned publicly accessible natural lands at nearly 50% of this subregion.

LAND OWNERSHIP BREAKDOWN WITHIN SUB-REGIONS

The pie charts on the following page show the distribution of publicly accessible natural lands by land owner/manager type in each subregion. Please note that public land owner/manager types in the context of the sub-region analysis include county parks, state agencies, utilities, and the Lancaster Conservancy. In general, the partner types consist of a conglomeration of individual organizations, except for the Conservancy. This is due to the fact that the Conservancy is unique amongst other partners within a Land Trust partner type by holding land in-fee and providing public access. Key findings related to ownership of publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL sub-regions are presented below.

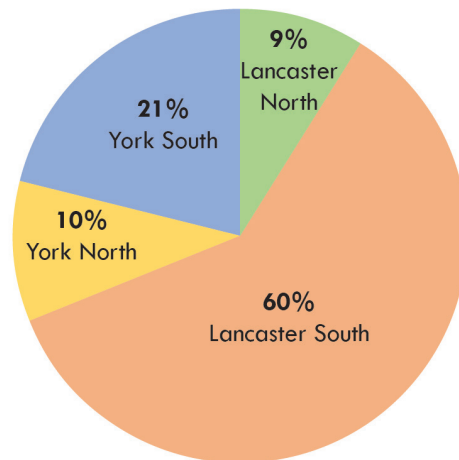
MAJORITY PARTNER TYPE

Each subregion has 1 majority partner type.

Each majority partner makes up a substantial percentage, 48-57% respectively, of each subregion.

Each subregion has a different majority partner type. While intuition would have you think the majority partner would be the same across each

ILMP Public Lands by Sub-Region



subregion throughout the SRCL, that is not the case.

- **Lancaster North** – Local Parks – 57%
- **Lancaster South** – Utility Owned Natural Lands – 53%
- **York North** – Lancaster County Nature Preserves – 48%
- **York South** – State Owned Natural Lands – 54%

The second majority partner type is equally large.

Each second majority partner type accounts for between 22-30% of each subregion. On the surface this fact might not stand out, until it is viewed in comparison to the remainder of partner type percentages.

- **Lancaster North** – County Parks – 28%
- **Lancaster South** – Lancaster Conservancy Nature Preserves – 31%
- **York North** – County Parks – 33%
- **York South** – County Parks – 23%

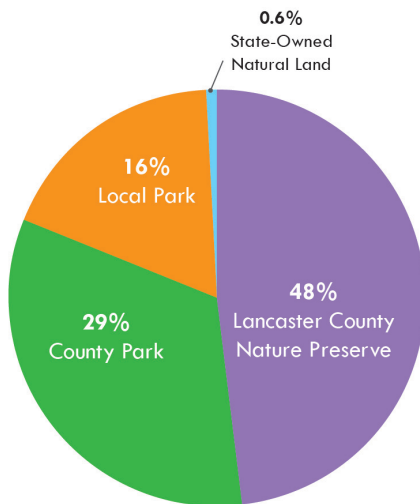
SECOND MAJORITY TYPE

The second majority partner types are more consistent across each subregion.

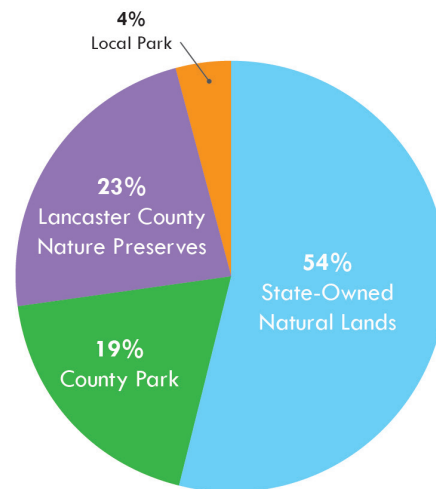
County Parks is the second largest partner type in 3 out of 4 subregions. While the dominant majority partner type changes within each subregion, the second majority partner remains more consistent.

There are two majority partner types of the entire SRCL. The top two partner types make up

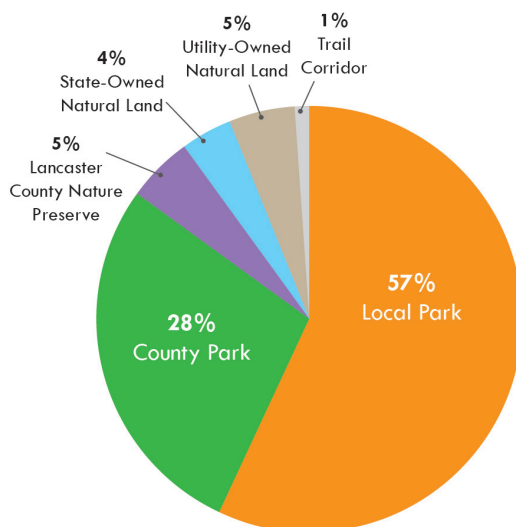
**York North
Public Land Breakdown**



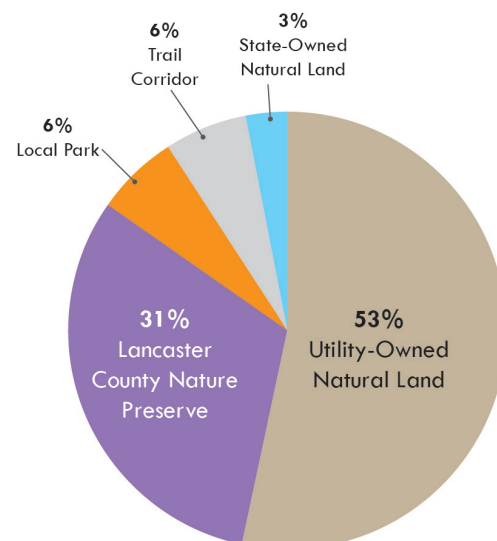
**York South
Public Land Breakdown**



**Lancaster North
Public Land Breakdown**



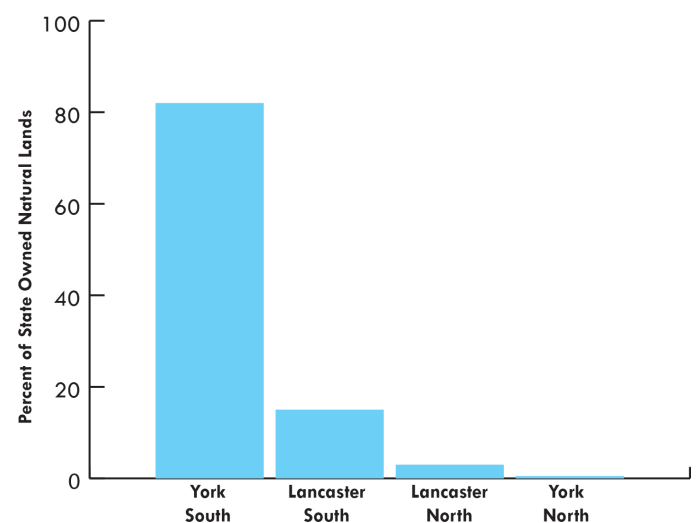
**Lancaster South
Public Land Breakdown**



between 84-85% of all publicly accessible natural lands in each subregion. The remaining partner types make up between 15-16% of publicly accessible natural lands. Should the participating organizations/agencies decide to, this finding could help identify subregion leads that were discussed on page 43 as a benefit to a subregion approach.

DISTRIBUTION OF STATE-OWNED NATURAL LANDS ACROSS THE SRCL REGION

Overall, there is limited state-owned natural lands within the SRCL region (about 2,321 acres or 14%). Most of this land is managed by the



Pennsylvania Game Commission, however 35% of this land is managed by PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks. The majority of these lands are located in York South. The breakdown of state-owned natural lands by sub-region is shown below:

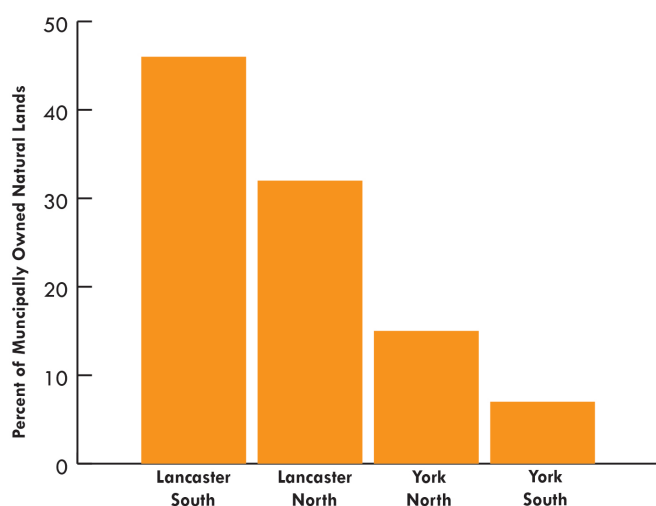
- **York South** - 82%
- **Lancaster South** - 15%
- **Lancaster North** - 3%
- **York North** - 0.5%

DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL PARKS ACROSS THE SRCL REGION

Local parks make up 12% of all publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL. The majority of municipally owned natural lands are located in Lancaster County (approximately 78% of the municipally owned natural lands in the SRCL). In Lancaster South, only 6% of publicly accessible natural lands are local parks and in York South only 4% are local parks.

The breakdown of local parks by sub-region is shown below:

- **Lancaster North** - 46%
- **Lancaster South** - 32%
- **York North** - 15%
- **York South** - 7%



OTHER FINDINGS

While the findings outlined here are the first steps and have laid the groundwork for progress in the ILMP, this analysis could be the catalyst for an even more robust understanding of landowners

and land managers in the SRCL. Three additional steps have been identified for further research.

- Incorporating agricultural and conservation easements and preserved farmland into the analysis would provide further knowledge of the SRCL. Though there is limited publicly accessible agricultural land in the SRCL, identifying parcels that ARE publicly accessible from within those management types would provide additional understanding of the distribution of these lands within the SRCL.
- Understanding who the primary land owners/managers are in each sub-region presents an opportunity to coordinate sub-region level communication, projects, and activities. A “sub-region lead” may also be explored and selected as a way to promote further engagement and investigation in each sub-region.
- The sub-region framework could be used as part of the Natural Resources and Recreation Plans to better understand how these lands relate with each other, and to better identify needs and pool resources within a sub-region.

IMPLEMENTATION



SUMMARY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Above: Samuel Lewis State Park
Photo Courtesy: Find Your Chesapeake

A SHARED VISION FOR INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT

The following desired outcomes represent the vision for integrated land management in the SRCL.

- Strategic preservation and stewardship of the SRCL natural landscape
- Improved and expanded recreational opportunities and a regional trail network
- Broad community support and increased volunteer capacity for stewarding the SRCL
- A coordinated approach to maintenance, management, and access to publicly accessible natural lands

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

In order to reach this shared vision, the SRCL partners will need to work together on a variety of implementation actions. These actions, together, support the SRCL Strategic Plan and the overall

SRCL vision. They include Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the ILMP project and future collaborative initiatives. The implementation matrix on the following pages identifies key implementation actions nested under these following categories:

- Coalition Building
- Regional Planning
- Resource Sharing
- Volunteer Coordination
- Funding

Each action includes information about who should be the lead on implementing the action, and the timeframe for implementation.

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
COALITION BUILDING		
Refine a clear governance structure and framework for the ILMP Partnership. Identify the backbone organization(s) to provide facilitation and administration support to the partnership. Establish criteria for how collaborative initiatives will be decided upon by the group.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Work Group Lead	2021
Revisit roles for leadership, to allow for some circulation of leadership and a “health check in.”	SRLC Leadership Team	2025
Consider utilizing the sub-region framework for coordinating sub-region level communications, projects, and activities.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Stew Work Group Lead + 2 leads within each sub-region	2021
As part of the “on-boarding process”, have all new partners read the ILMP to learn about the SRCL and integrated land management, as well as to learn about the roles, responsibilities, and priorities of other partners.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Stew Work Group Lead	2021 – 2025 (finish in 2021 and continue as new partners come on board).
Memorialize partner commitment to the SRCL in writing. The MOU should set forth the agreed upon overarching goals, its partnership structure and governance, and high level roles and responsibilities.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Work Group Lead – with feedback from the SRCL Leadership Team.	2021
Encourage partner organizations to sign a non-disclosure and data sharing agreement related to future land acquisitions.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Stew Work Group Lead + Conservancy’s In-house Counsel	2021- 2025 (finish in 2021 and continue as new partners come on board)
Develop clear communication methods to enable greater partner collaboration, build trust, and strengthen partner relationships. These may include regular team meetings, joint field work, pop-up cafes, online resources, and community events.	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Stew Work Group Lead + Work Group Planners (to include County and DCNR planners)	2021- 2025 (established in 2021, review and modify annually and continue as new partners come on board).
Develop a mechanism for partner sharing where organizations can report on current and upcoming projects and initiatives they’re engaged in as an organization/agency (whether its quarterly, annually, etc.).	Lancaster Conservancy, as Work Group Lead + Work Group Planners (to include County and DCNR planners)	2021- 2025 (established in 2021, review and modify annually and continue as new partners come on board)

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
Create a strategy for engaging potential partners that are not yet involved in the integrated land management process (i.e. municipalities, energy companies, etc.) by leveraging existing relationships and finding common ground. Maintain dialogue with municipalities and reach out to select municipalities that hold and manage publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL to engage them in the integrated land management process.	SRCL Leadership Team (+ County Planners) + All ILMP Partners	2021
Build off the work each of the partners is already engaged in by coordinating existing efforts. This enables partners to share best practices, pool resources, and eliminates duplication of efforts. Identify low-hanging fruit projects to capitalize on where partners can quickly agree upon a direction and scope. Identify some projects with shorter timelines and a high probability of success in order to experience “partnership wins” early.	All ILMP Partners	2021/2022
Complete collaborative natural resource and passive recreation project, to be completed after comprehensive plans identified in strategic plan are vetted and adopted.	All ILMP Partners	2024-2025
Create a shared database of land management plans for natural lands in the SRCL where plans can be evaluated to ensure they are consistent with the SRCL goals and with neighboring properties goals. Such a database will allow any potential conflict and inconsistencies to be addressed over time as plans and goals are modified or updated.	All ILMP Partners	2023-2024
Sponsor trainings and professional development workshops for ILMP partners on synergistic topics, such as invasive species control, managing conflicting user demands, equity issues, or sustainable trail development.	All ILMP Partners	2022-2023
Collect measurable outcomes of stewardship projects in the future to track progress. Share these outcomes with partners, stakeholders, and the general public.	Lancaster Conservancy, as Work Group Lead + Work Group County and DCNR Planners	2023-2024
Evaluate network effectiveness regularly through surveying ILMP partners annually and as a report out at an annual meeting. Perform check ins with individual representatives asking “How are we doing? What do we need to modify? Are there concerns by one or more partners? Are there emerging challenges?”	Lancaster Conservancy, as the Work Group Lead	2021-2025

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
REGIONAL PLANNING		
Develop a Recreation Plan for the SRCL. This plan should include an analysis of regional trail and facility needs, and a comprehensive assessment of visitor amenities and strategies for improving these at open space parcels in the SRCL. Use GIS mapping to conduct a greenway corridor analysis and identify linkages between trails, multi-use paths, and green spaces. Identify priority parcels to acquire that are adjacent to regional trails or enable greater trail connectivity and/or expansion.	DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation + County Planners	2023/2024
Develop a comprehensive Natural Resources Plan for the SRCL that includes a regional inventory of natural resources and identifies high priority acquisition and conservation opportunities. Generate landscape-scale natural resource maps that highlight water resources, habitat, species composition, conservation priorities, and others. Once created, these can be stored and accessed on the SRCL website by agencies and organizations as they complete projects and apply for funding. Examine land cover data further through the Chesapeake Bay Conservancy's geospatial dataset. This Plan will galvanize the partners around a baseline understanding of the SRCL's natural resources and trends, and also help them identify critical data gaps.	Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP)	2023/2024 (These plans have been presented as occurring between 2023 and 2024).
Utilize the sub-region framework for both the Recreation Plan and Natural Resources Plan to better understand the character, needs, and attributes of each sub-region.	DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation + County Planners, Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP)	2023/2024 (These plans have been presented as occurring between 2023 and 2024).
Analyze publicly accessible natural lands with agricultural and conservation easements as part of the integrated land management initiative and as a way of expanding the understanding the ILMP.	SRCL Leadership Team + County Planners	2021
Encourage more municipalities to use open space public tax money to acquire natural lands, create more parks, and improve public accessibility to local natural lands in the SRCL.	SRCL Leadership Team + County Planners	
Protect important agricultural and natural resources by encouraging municipalities to adopt consistent land use regulations along the entire corridor on both sides of the Susquehanna River.	County Planners	
Collaboratively address threats to the SRCL's ecological communities and natural environment through scientific study, management, education, and planning.	Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP)	2023/2024 (These plans have been presented as occurring between 2023 and 2024).

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
RESOURCE SHARING		
Compile individual agency geospatial data into an accessible, shared regional database of land conservation and stewardship related information. This will set up land managers and partners to better plan for the future, and enable data-driven decision making. Make sure the information sharing process allows for easy dissemination of data among the partners. Consider packaging the data in multiple ways to increase the data's accessibility for partners without sophisticated software.	Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP)	2021/2022
Engage in a collaborative effort to align and implement coordinated mapping, wayfinding, and signage for the publicly accessible natural lands in the SRCL. Make sure there is brand consistency and recognition. Strategically pool funding and volunteer resources to generate designs, construct kiosks, and build out a wayfinding system.	Operations & Outreach Work Group + ILMP Partnership	2023/2024
Enable sharing of skills and knowledge between partners related to solving complex and common land management related issues. This may relate to habitat health, migrating species, climate change, vegetation management, invasive species, and endangered species.	DCNR Bureau of Forestry, PA Fish and Boat Commission and PA Game Commission.	2021 – 2025
Develop a centralized reporting system for trail issues on public lands to better coordinate and prioritize maintenance improvements.	Lancaster Conservancy, as Stew Work Group	2021-2022
Investigate opportunities for tool and equipment sharing and how this can be integrated into future ILMP work projects. For example, One Tam, a collaborative partnership based in California, utilized equipment sharing as part of their region-wide bat monitoring project. One partner purchased the equipment, while the others purchased software and paid for U.S. Geological Survey scientists. This equipment is now being used collectively across all landscapes.	DCNR Bureau of Forestry, PA Game Commission, DCNR Bureau of State Parks, Lancaster and York County Park Systems, Lancaster Conservancy	2024/2025
Collaboratively identify solutions to the lack of enforcement prevalent on public lands and ways to address common challenges such as vandalism, littering, safety compliance, and unauthorized motor vehicle use.	PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Game Commission, DCNR Bureau of State Parks, Lancaster and York County Park Systems, Lancaster Conservancy	2024/2025
Develop collaborative projects that educate the public on regional issues that impact ecological health, recreation, and stewardship of public lands in the SRCL.	ILMP Partners + Operations and Outreach Work Group	2025

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
VOLUNTEER COORDINATION		
Host a SRCL-wide volunteer day to promote a culture of collective, volunteer stewardship within the SRCL and to boost SRCL recognition.	Operations and Outreach Work Group	2024/2025
Develop standardized volunteer training guidelines/protocols and standardized insurance/liability requirements across the SRCL to enable sharing of volunteers (i.e. a volunteer is trained to serve multiple agencies/organizations rather than just one). This volunteer base would act as SRCL Volunteer Land Stewards.	Lancaster Conservancy, as Stew Work Group Lead + DCNR State Parks, PA Game Commission, Lancaster and York County Park Systems	2021-2022
Investigate the feasibility of hiring a shared volunteer coordinator(s) to help manage these SRCL volunteers in the future.	PA DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, National Park Service	2023
Share information and pool resources to more efficiently offer volunteer trainings, liability coverage, and other benefits collaboratively.	Lancaster Conservancy + DCNR Bureau of State Parks, DCNR Bureau of Forestry PA Game Commission	2023/2024
FUNDING		
Develop the Lower Susquehanna Endowment Fund to fund land protection projects.	SRCL Leadership Team	2025
Build regional public-private support and brand recognition of the SRCL. Consider developing tools and visuals to communicate the overarching vision and collaborative framework on the SRCL website to foster partner and public engagement in the SRCL's work.	Operations and Outreach Work Group	2025
Identify and compile information on available funding sources. Consider the range of financial streams, sources, and mechanisms available to support shared activities. Identify possible collaborative projects or collaboration metrics that could meet requirements for receiving funding. Leverage intersecting landscape interests to create mixed funding opportunities for partnership activities.	SRCL Leadership Team + ILMP Partners	2022
Identify and leverage additional private and public investment opportunities in conservation and stewardship work in the SRCL.	SRCL Leadership Team	2022
Identify innovative ways to fund larger-scale stewardship and conservation initiatives, improvement projects, and routine land maintenance activities in the SRCL.	SRCL Leadership Team	2022

SOURCES

1. Leigh Goldberg Consulting. November, 2018. Capacity for Building Collaboration: A Case Study on Building and Sustaining Landscape-Scale Stewardship Networks in the 21st Century. California Landscape Stewardship Network. https://calandscapestewardshipnetwork.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/CLSN_Case-Study_11_30_18_Print_Ready.pdf
2. The Sonoran Institute and the Bureau of the Land Management. June, 2012. Sustaining Large Landscape Conservation Partnerships: Strategies for Success. <https://sonoraninstitute.org/files/pdf/sustaining-large-landscape-conservation-partnerships-strategies-for-success-06012012.pdf>
3. The Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network: A Regionwide Cross-Sector Approach to Conservation. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56438501e4b0d160674c3131/t/59a0560dd55b4159c56932ef/1503680024061/SCMSN-Case-Study-A-Regionwide-Cross-Sector-Approach-to-Conservation.pdf>
4. National Business Plan Initiative Consultants and NPS Chesapeake Bay Office. Enhancing the partnership: Chesapeake Large Landscape Conservation Partnership Report. November, 2013. https://www.nps.gov/chba/learn/news/upload/LLC-Partnership-Analysis_11012013-1.pdf
5. Texas Hill Country Conservation Network. October, 2017. Network Models and Lessons from Across the U.S. https://www.hillcountryalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Network-ModelsLessons_102517.pdf
6. Wright, Kevin. 2020. Advancing Collaboration in California. California Landscape Stewardship Network. http://landscapeconservation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Advancing-Collaboration-White-Paper_Final01192020.pdf

APPENDIX



APPENDIX CONTENTS

Safe Harbor Park

The appendix contains the following items:

- Case Study Analyses
- Partner Profile and raw Natural Lands and Recreational Assets Inventory Form for each ILMP partner
- Natural Lands and Recreational Assets Inventory Report
- Sub Region Analysis - Technical Process

PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION LANDSCAPES

CASE STUDY

In 2004, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DNCR) initiated a landscape-scale program creating “Conservation Landscapes”, which are unique sub-regions in the Commonwealth. In this program, place-based partnerships of agencies, communities, and organizations drive the conservation and stewardship of natural resources. Partners collaborate on projects within their sub-regions that not only focus on biodiversity and ecological values (though these still remain at the forefront of the work), but those that are related to outdoor recreation, water quality, tourism, and sustainable economic development. Below are case studies highlighting four of Pennsylvania’s Conservation Landscapes that can provide insight, lessons, and opportunities for the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape to consider.

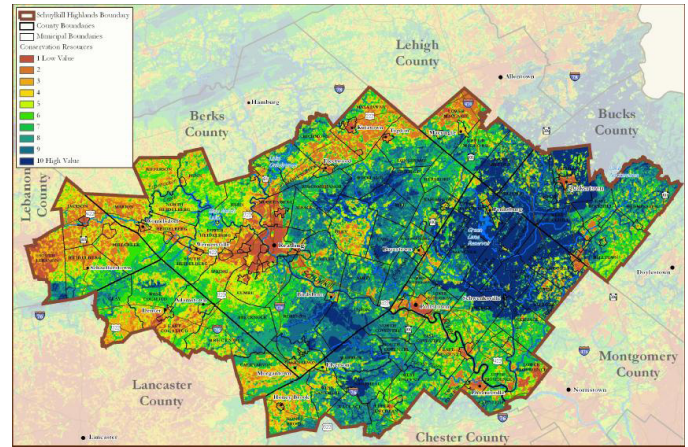
SCHUYLKILL HIGHLANDS

MAPPING FOR COORDINATED LAND CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Schuylkill Highlands includes the majority of the Schuylkill River Watershed, the southeastern most section of the Pennsylvania Highlands, and the Hopewell Big Woods. It’s the largest remaining unbroken forest in southeastern Pennsylvania. The Schuylkill Highlands Partnership’s focus is to protect its natural and cultural resources, encourage economic development that creates a sustainable regional landscape, and inspire people to care for, enjoy and explore the Schuylkill Highlands region. As part of their collaborative work, the partnership guided the

development of landscape-scale natural resource maps that analyze forest cover, water resources, topography, public and protected lands, soils, conservation priority areas, and more. They also used GIS mapping to conduct a greenway corridor analysis as part of their regional trail plan to identify linkages between trails, multi-use paths, and green space. These maps have the potential to serve as references when applying for funding, and serve as planning tools when initiating broad-scale, multi-jurisdictional land conservation and management projects. These maps are posted

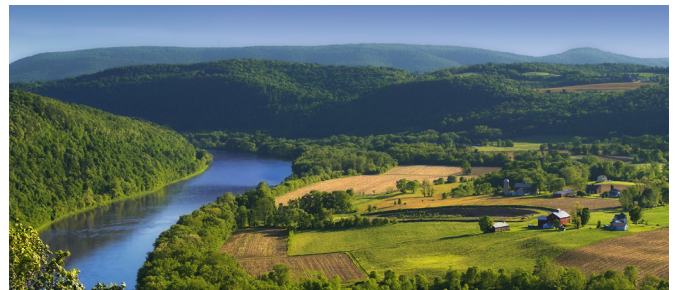
for the SRCL work groups as they identify future land management and conservation projects. For more information, visit: <http://www.schuylkillhighlands.org/maplibrary.php> and http://www.schuylkillhighlands.org/regional_trail_plan.php



SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP FOSTERING A COLLABORATIVE CULTURE & REGIONAL IDENTITY

The South Mountain Partnership is highlighted as a successful model of multi-stakeholder collaboration working to achieve shared conservation and stewardship goals. Strengthening the network of partners has been a defining principle in this group's work and has helped to build a shared identity within this sub-region of PA. The partnership serves four roles, acting as "facilitator" (creating connections and opportunities for conversation among partners), "integrator" (breaking down silos), "interpreter" (engaging partners and the public on the importance of the region's resources), and "catalyst" (translating conversations to action by supporting partner projects and initiating multi-partner initiatives). In 2011, a leadership committee was formed to ensure direct partner engagement in the work of the South Mountain Partnership. This group meets bimonthly and provides direction and support to Partnership staff, as well as the strategic direction to the partnership. This network of dedicated partners produced significant accomplishments including the White Rocks land acquisition, well-attended annual summits, a strong scientific research corps, and the initiation of projects such as a Cultural Heritage Plan and the South Mountain Trolley Greenway (both of which meet broad environmental and economic goals for the sub-region). As part of their goal to increase awareness of the South Mountain Conservation Landscape brand, the Partnership worked with a consultant to create a promotional video about the sub-region titled "This

Is Where We Live" and an overarching outreach campaign to leverage their unique story across a variety of channels including social media, website, e-newsletter, etc. Results from this campaign included increased social media participation and engagement and an enhanced sense of pride, ownership, and credibility along the partner network and the general public.



The SRCL has been developing a similar organizational structure to the South Mountain Partnership, with work groups or subcommittees completing relevant projects to achieve SRCL goals. The SRCL partners may want to consider forming a leadership committee to serve as a decision making entity and to promote greater consistent involvement among agencies and organizations in the partnership. In the future, the SRCL may also want to consider projects that enhance brand awareness as a way to promote the outdoor recreation industry and the value of conservation in the sub-region. For more information, visit: <https://southmountainpartnership.org/>

POCONOS FORESTS AND WATERS

FOSTERING A COLLABORATIVE CULTURE & REGIONAL IDENTITY

The Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape aims to identify and protect its local and natural outdoor resources while implementing trail connections throughout the sub-region. The sub-region includes Pennsylvania Counties of Pike, Monroe, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Wayne and Carbon. The Poconos Environmental Council (PEC) works with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and community partners to connect State Parks and Forests to communities, connect community programs to each other, and connect citizens and visitors to the region's abundant habitat and outdoor recreation areas.

Currently, this collaborative group, which is largely facilitated by the PEC, is working to create greenway and trail connections to public lands and communities throughout the landscape. Partners include regional land trusts, sportsmen groups, trail groups, municipal leaders, state agencies, and private citizens. Trail and greenway initiatives consist of regional trail development including the Industrial Heartlands Trails and the East Coast Greenway, organizing the Northeast Pennsylvania Trails Forum that encourages sharing of opportunities and challenges related to regional trail development, and administering several mini-grants and awards, two of which specifically focus on providing funding for trails. The Success Stories

documented through the mini-grant program show a variety of investments and initiatives that may provide good examples for the SRCL partners. Unlike the South Mountain Partnership, the Poconos Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape work is strongly nested under the Poconos Environmental Council, whereas the South Mountain Partnership focused on creating an entity that was driven by the partners rather than one specific organization. The SRCL also has a clearer goal of developing a framework for resource sharing related to land stewardship that appears as less of a priority for the Poconos group. While the SRCL is particularly interested in aligning wayfinding and signage, the Poconos is taking a broader look at regional trail development by connecting trail segments throughout public lands and communities. This is something the SRCL can consider when identifying outdoor recreation projects that could achieve the SRCL's goals. For more information, visit <https://pecpa.org/programs/watersheds/pocono-forests-waters-conservation-landscape/>.



PENNSYLVANIA WILDS

INVESTING IN A LOCAL, NATURAL RESOURCE BASED ECONOMY

The Pennsylvania Wilds encompasses over 2 million acres of public lands, which are protected and set aside for citizens and visitors to enjoy. The region includes 29 state parks, eight state forests, and the Commonwealth's only national forest; the Allegheny National Forest. Over recent years, the outdoor recreation industry in the Pennsylvania Wilds has expanded because of strategic investment in public lands and facilities in the region and in its local communities. DCNR investments in trails, signage, and wildlife

habitat, as well as community grant projects have spurred local economic development. The PA Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship is DCNR's external lead organization for this landscape's work that coordinates a broad array of partners to deliver programs that "integrate conservation and economic development", which is the overall regional vision. The Pennsylvania Wilds Initiative took advantage of its inherent qualities of being a remote, rugged, and rural landscape and

transformed them into valuable economic assets. The name “Pennsylvania Wilds” was chosen as a memorable tag that emphasizes its vast natural landscapes and its opportunities for nature-based and outdoor tourism. The bull elk logo image was chosen as an iconic symbol of the region and has contributed to this notable brand. PA Wilds economic development strategies have focused on increasing tourism demand by expanding branding and marketing while also addressing the “supply side” by nurturing and strengthening local businesses to support the tourism economy while also preserving community character.

The PA Center for Entrepreneurship has been a catalyst for a number of other spin-off programs and projects. The Wilds Cooperative (WCO), was created to build identity and enhance tourism in the region. It’s a partnership of local craftspeople, businesses, and investors working to grow and connect the area’s unique establishments with resources, education, and networking opportunities. Another integral project that was launched is the PA Wilds Conservation Shops at state parks that sell regionally made products by small businesses.

The PA Wilds has also been a model for successful community engagement. The PA Wilds Design Assistance Program was created to ensure that development and natural resource preservation are accomplished in tandem in local communities. This program is centered around the idea that early, strategic and coordinated regional planning for new development will protect the authentic character and lifestyle of the Pennsylvania Wilds. At the core of this program, is the PA Wilds Design

Guide for Community Character Stewardship. The Design Guide is a voluntary planning document that highlights how communities in the Pennsylvania Wilds can protect or enhance their unique community character as they grow. Central components of this document include contextual information about the PA Wilds and its branding, how best to use the logo and other messaging in signage, best practices for place-based design, and environmental planning guidance such as preserving dark skies and lessening the impact of intrusive development. Resources like this enable Pennsylvania Wilds to move forward in achieving its shared goals in a cohesive and consistent way.

The SRCL may look to Pennsylvania Wilds as a model when developing their brand further and when forming a program for regional, coordinated wayfinding and signage. While the PA Wilds has clearly defined their mission as integrating conservation and economic development, the SRCL’s mission is different and more unique to their landscape, focusing on ecosystem health, connectivity, and sustainable public access. However, the SRCL has also been working to harness the economic opportunities that are presented with a strong outdoor recreation industry and access to public natural lands. As the SRCL further defines its future work, evaluating lessons learned from the Pennsylvania Wilds branding, business development, community engagement, and tourism activities, could prove to be useful. For more information, please visit: <https://pawilds.com/> and <https://pecpa.org/wp-content/uploads/Pennsylvania-Wilds-Case-Study.pdf>





MAD RIVER VALLEY PARTNERSHIPS

CASE STUDY

MEETING SHARED GOALS THROUGH COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

Located in northern Vermont, the Mad River Valley Planning District and the communities of Fayston, Waitsfield & Warren, VT are collaborating with a diverse array of agencies and organizations on three overlapping initiatives that work to achieve shared goals of environmental, economic, and social sustainability within the region.

These initiatives include the Mad River Watershed Conservation Partnership, the Forests, Wildlife & Communities Partnership, and the Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative. Some of the partners that are engaged in these efforts include the regional planning districts, land trusts, Friends of the Mad River, conservation commissions, local garden and hiking groups, the USDA Forest Service, Vermont Natural Resources Council, and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The Mad River Valley Planning District is the lead organization for ensuring engagement and coordination among partners. These initiatives are described in greater detail below.

MAD RIVER WATERSHED CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

The Mad River Watershed Conservation Partnership is a coalition of the Mad River Valley Planning District, Vermont Land Trust and Friends of the Mad River formed to further land conservation in the watershed of the Mad River. Their mission is to identify critical conservation resources and assist willing landowners, organizations and communities in protecting and strengthening the watershed's. They have completed an inventory of natural and cultural resources within the Mad River Watershed. This group was driven by a commitment to use limited funds and resources judiciously, and intended the inventory to assist the partnership with approaching land conservation strategically.

FORESTS, WILDLIFE & COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

The goal of the Forests, Wildlife & Communities Project is to implement a regional and landscape level campaign for conservation by advocating with local officials, landowners, realtors, and engineers to implement community land use and

which identifies areas that ecologists have deemed important for conservation. The map prioritizes resources into four levels, reflecting the most important places for maintaining the Valley's fish and wildlife populations and biological diversity.

THE MAD RIVER VALLEY TRAILS COLLABORATIVE

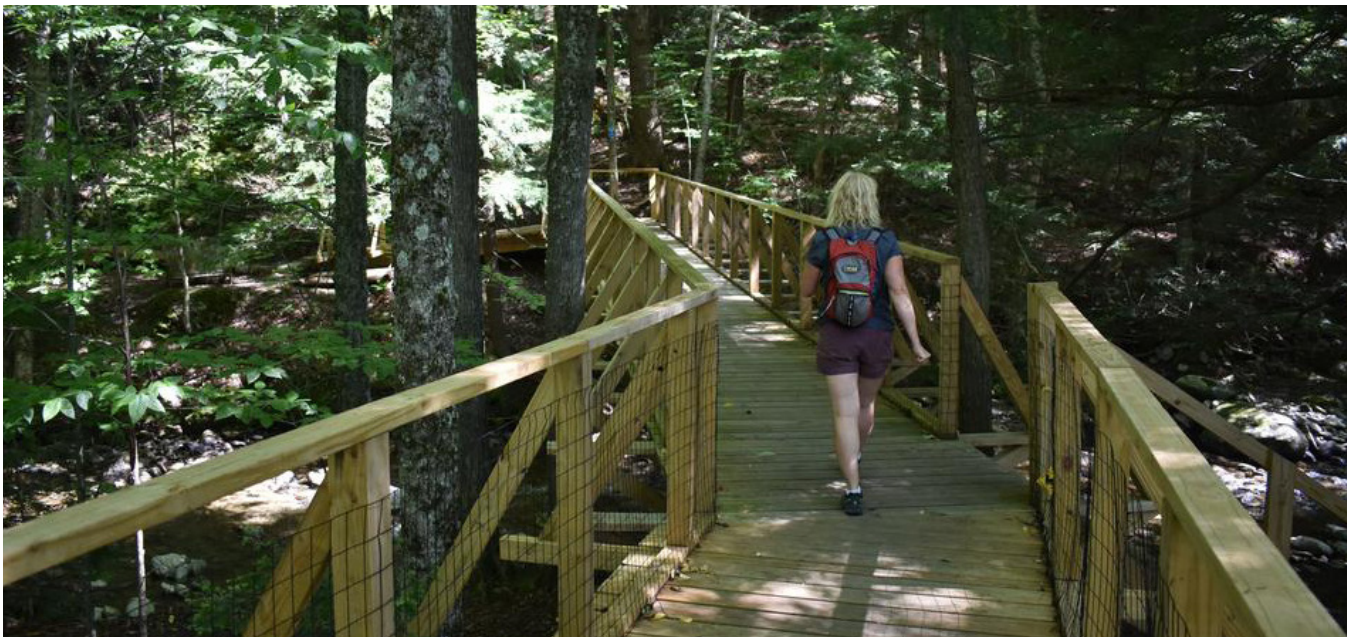
The Mad River Valley Trails are a watershed-wide network of lands and trails that reflect the Valley's love of the outdoors and commitment to stewardship of land and recreational opportunities for current and future generations. The Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative, a group representing 13 stakeholder organizations who convene to coordinate and improve trail-based recreation in the Valley, recently initiated a Trailhead Kiosk & Mapping Project. In September 2017, the Collaborative identified trail signage as a key priority to enhance the economic and community benefits associated with recreation.

Eighteen trailhead kiosks were erected at existing trail access points across the towns of Waitsfield, Warren & Fayston. The kiosks feature a site map, trail information, and user guidelines and represent just a small portion of a group of 50 total trailhead signs being established to identify, unify, and celebrate its expansive trail network. These kiosks highlight connectivity between the

paths and sidewalks of community centers and more remote mountain trails.

LESSONS LEARNED

The Mad River Valley efforts show how land conservation, stewardship, and recreation can be approached in a coordinated way and at a regional scale. The first three goals of the SRCL (identify lands and stakeholders, inventory needs and resources, and establish a coalition) were necessary in the Mad River Valley to get their three initiatives off the ground. Once these three goals are accomplished through the Integrated Land Management Plan process, the SRCL partners will have the challenge of developing and adopting a framework for collaboration on existing natural lands only to complete the fourth goal, which is aligning wayfinding and signage. The Mad River Valley Project was focused on then identifying and protecting additional land. A bigger challenge in many ways. With participation from many partners, this collaborative effort managed to align and implement a coordinated mapping, branding, and marketing effort for the publicly accessible trails and recreational resources, regardless of ownership. For more information, visit: <https://mrvpd.org/mad-river-watershed-conservation-partnership/>, <https://mrvpd.org/forests-wildlife-communities-project/>, and <https://mrvpd.org/mrv-trails-map/>.





SOUTHERN MAINE CONSERVATION COLLABORATIVE

CASE STUDY

BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH RESOURCE SHARING & COORDINATION

The Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative (SMCC) was founded in 2012 as a service center to assist conservation organizations in southern Maine with hands on assistance specific to organizational needs. Because their theory of change is rooted in the idea that solutions forged together and in partnership are more lasting and effective, they also serve to build connections within the conservation sector, and between conservation and broader community issues.

The SMCC strategic priority areas include:

- Improve the coordination and effectiveness of numerous organizations that work on protecting land and water in York and Cumberland Counties by providing professional support services, collaborative learning, and networking opportunities.
- Facilitate projects to tangibly illustrate the power of partnership and regional

collaboration that will enhance ecological connectivity between the organizations and within the region.

- Clearly communicate trends in land and water conservation, current and future threats, and solutions to member organizations, citizens, and community leaders in the region.
- Leverage additional private and public investment in conservation to provide the greatest benefit for current and future generations of the region's residents and ecosystems.
- Build relationships with community partners to connect land and water conservation with different sectors so that local projects on the ground can illustrate relevance and interdependence.

SMCC TOOL LIBRARY

One initiative the SMCC launched was a Tool Library program. The Tool Library is available to Casco Bay Island organizations and SMCC member organizations for use in invasive species management. The Tool Library contains a collection of hand tools including loppers, pruning

served” basis. Reservations can be made online through smcc.localtools.org.

CASCO BAY REGIONAL SHELLFISH WORKING GROUP

In southern Maine, shellfish provide essential ecosystem services and are vital to providing jobs to harvesters and seafood to the local food system. Climate change is causing rapid changes in the intertidal ecosystem and their management is complicated and very local, which results in multiple towns working on similar issues, oftentimes without the full picture of what is going on in the broader watershed. The Casco Bay Regional Shellfish Working Group (WG) formed in 2019 to address these issues by providing a forum for regional collaboration to discuss adaptation, research, conservation, and management and SMCC is serving as the project’s fiscal agent. SMCC secured funding to provide direct assistance to harvesters, knowing that any state or federal relief would not be immediately available.

SMCC NEWSLETTER

SMCC distributes a monthly e-newsletter to all partnership organizations and general subscribers. This builds community among partners, reinforces the values of SMCC and its regional approach to conservation and stewardship, and highlights partner organizations, partnership projects, relevant events, and learning opportunities.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PROGRAMMING

SMCC coordinated a program for the SMCC members to broaden the general understanding of how diversity, equity, and inclusion relate conservation work in Southern Maine. The Fund for Maine Land Conservation has provided funding to support trainings, workshops, and activities as part of this program. In 2018, representatives from 15 conservation organizations participated in the Maine-Wabanaki REACH Workshop.

In this workshop, volunteers facilitated discussions and interactive experiences to deepen the group’s knowledge of the Native Tribal experience in Maine past and present. Additional sessions



were also held to provide participants with strategies to help organizations become more resilient, responsive, and inclusive. This work of acknowledging privilege and barriers to access is essential for conservation in the future.

LESSONS LEARNED

This case study is another example of regional collaboration by a collection of different entities that share or are willing to support a common vision. Similar to the SRCL, the SMCC is focused on building a coalition for integrated, holistic land management and conservation, capacity building, and education. Additionally, their programs also focus on maximizing resources by creating opportunities to share with agencies or organizations where those may have a need that can be met. Also similar to the SRCL, the SMCC uses a collaborative framework to build a strong partnership among conservation organizations in the region. The SRCL may look to the SMCC for inspiration related to enhanced communications among partners (ex: e-newsletter), providing education on issues of regional importance (ex: shellfish working group, diversity and inclusion in the outdoors), and sharing resources (ex: tool library). For more information, visit: <https://southernmaineconservation.org//>



TAMALPAIS LANDS COLLABORATIVE CASE STUDY

LANDSCAPE-SCALE STEWARDSHIP THROUGH A SUSTAINED PARTNERSHIP

Mt. Tamalpais is located in the San Francisco Bay Area and is the highest peak in the Marin coast range. It provides visitors and the community with clean water, fresh air, and space for renewal, solitude, and recreation. While Mt. Tamalpais is seen by the community as one mountain, the land is owned and managed by four adjacent (but separate) public agencies including Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) under the National Park Service (NPS), Marin County Parks, Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), and California State Parks.

In California, land managers have been investing in landscape-scale collaboration as a pathway to steward the state's public lands and natural resources for greater impact and resilience. In the conservation and land management fields, public agencies have recognized the benefits

associated with managing land at the landscape and ecosystem levels. The Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC) was formed in 2012 (though its seeds were sown earlier) from this philosophy. During this time, the conditions were ripe for an innovative land management partnership to emerge, especially due to the state's support of the landscape-level framework. Their vision was for the regional partnership to elevate the stewardship needs of the mountain to ensure a thriving ecosystem, cultivate meaningful visitor experiences, and promote an actively involved community into the future.

Before the partnership was created, Mt. Tamalpais's land management agencies had become increasingly aware that they shared numerous challenges, as well as many untapped opportunities for enhancing their approach to land management, including coordinating stewardship and education programs, managing biological resources across jurisdictional boundaries, and improving signage and trail corridors mountain-wide. They saw developing a collaborative

The TLC has three guiding bodies - the Executive Team, Working Group, and Committees. The Parks Conservancy plays a distinct role in serving as the “backbone” organization of the three bodies, providing administrative and organizational support and serving as the “connective tissue” or a “fluid facilitator” of the partnership. Raising funds to hire a dedicated Initiative Manager for the TLC remains a potential long-term goal. Currently, the role is shared by two Parks Conservancy Working Group members. Partners who were interviewed noted that new collaboratives should be prepared for this role to evolve throughout the lifecycle of the partnership, recognizing that the critical needs of this role will fluctuate as the group moves through the stages of development. Partners did agree that having an assigned facilitator is mandatory for multi-organizational collaborative initiatives to sustain themselves over time. As the collaborative developed, improved its processes, and experienced positive collaborative outcomes, participation in the TLC reinvigorated staff and increased job satisfaction.

Partners that were interviewed acknowledged that successfully translating a big vision into direct, tangible results was significant for sustaining multi-organizational partnerships. From determining the partnership's size, scope, and governance structure during the formation process, to defining its project selection criteria and communication methods, the TLC has striven to position itself to achieve results and demonstrate its value.

Partner

TANAPAI LANDS COLLABORATIVE

MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING

- Goals
 - Joint organizations
 - Individual Agency Responsibilities
 - Mutual Respect Approach
 - Project Identification
 - Funding

HOW WE

BRANDED TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME

MADE A COMMITMENT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WHOLE TANAPAI MOUNTAIN

WHICH MEANS WE'VE AGREED TO SHARE RESPONSIBILITY TO CHOOSE RESPONSIBLY, DECIDE AND PARTICIPATE FOR THE LONG-TERM BENEFIT OF WHOLE TANAPAI

ONE MOUNTAIN, ONE VISION

COLLECTIVE IMPACT PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

- Community & Conservation
- Waterways & Wetlands
- Signature Trails
- Legacy Projects

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

PUBLIC AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

WORKING GROUP

PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

OUR PARTNERSHIP

DECISION MAKING

STEP 1

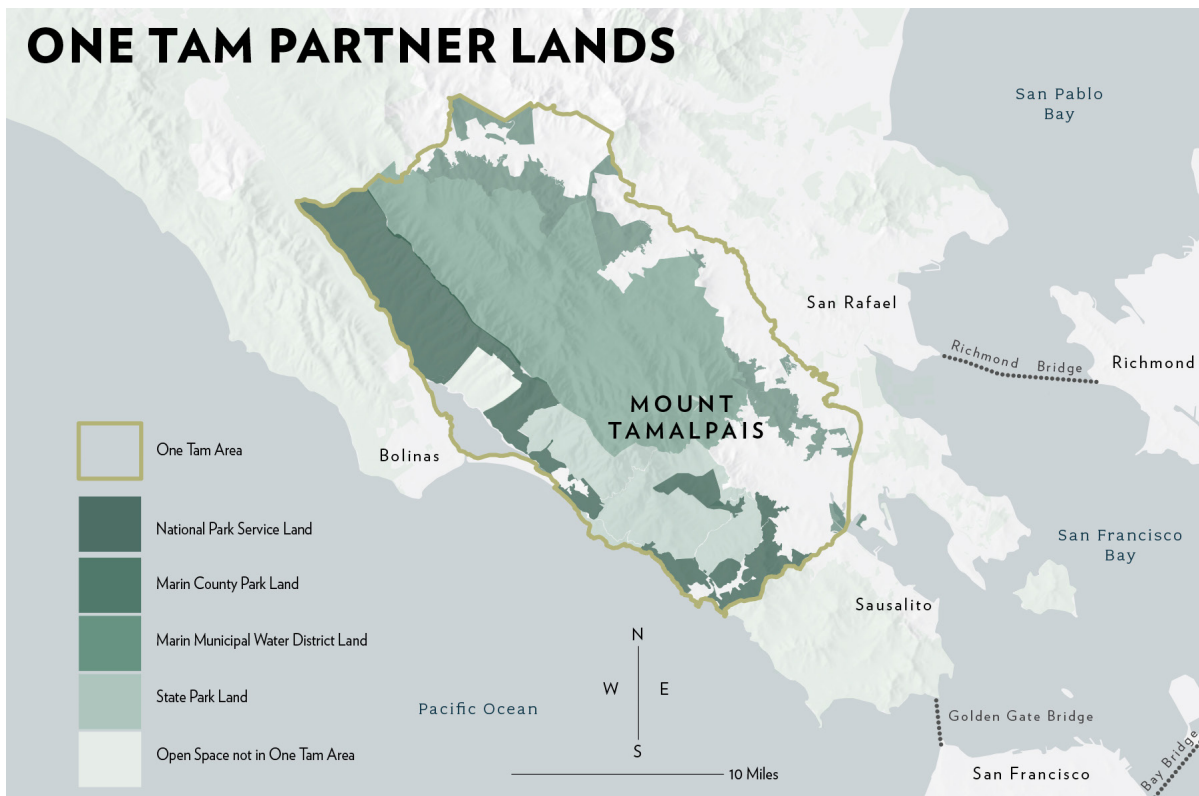
STEP 2



A GRASSROOTS APPROACH

“One Tam” was created as a community initiative to engage the broader community in the work of the TLC. Rather than branding the overarching partnership, the partners focused on how everyone is needed to care for the mountain as a whole. To reinforce this brand, partners deliver actionable stewardship programs so the local communities can see the role they can play in Mt. Tamalpais’ stewardship. The One Tam website has been a virtual hub and bulletin board for partners to keep the public and partners informed and current. The website publishes a comprehensive archive of the partners’ agreements, annual work plans, project criteria, annual reports, project descriptions and timelines, and a calendar of all volunteer opportunities happening on Mt. Tamalpais, including social and educational opportunities for the public.

“One Tam” was created as a community initiative to engage the broader community in the work of the TLC. Rather than branding the overarching partnership, the partners focused on how everyone is needed to care for the mountain as a whole. To reinforce this brand, partners deliver actionable stewardship programs so the local communities can see the role they can play in Mt. Tamalpais’ stewardship. The One Tam website has been a virtual hub and bulletin board for partners to keep the public and partners informed and current. The website publishes a comprehensive archive of the partners’ agreements, annual work plans, project criteria, annual reports, project descriptions and timelines, and a calendar of all volunteer opportunities happening on Mt. Tamalpais, including social and educational opportunities for the public.



CULTIVATING PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS

The partnership’s ability to create strong, positive interpersonal relationships has been foundational to its effectiveness and impact. Recognizing partner work and valuing their contribution is important for retaining morale. Additionally, social network maps were created to depict the interconnected web of relationships stemming, including agencies and the community at large. This “web” model highlights the interconnectedness of the participating organizations and the level of cooperation and collaboration uniting them.

During their formation process, the TLC created a framework for partner relationships to develop and strengthen over time through both formal and informal mechanisms. These include regular team meetings, joint field work, community events, informal teas and pop up cafes, and an annual off-site staff retreat. These mechanisms provide opportunities for partner staff to work closely in each other’s environments and in the community, to break down barriers, and to attain greater understanding of each partner’s organizational cultural differences.

LESSONS LEARNED

Just like the TLC, the SRCL has recognized that the individual partners engaged in stewardship work within their respective landscapes share similar challenges and opportunities and see integrated management as a sustainable path forward to completing high priority projects on public, natural lands. The SRCL will need to determine whether an entity is needed to serve as the “backbone organization” or “facilitator” of the partnership and who would be best equipped to do this.

Both the TLC and the SRCL also have a desire for long-term collaboration to achieve their visions. Intentionally designing communication processes like the TLC accomplished should strengthen partner relationships and keep partners involved in the initiative. Just like the One Tam website, the SRCL may want to consider developing tools and visuals to communicate the overarching vision and collaborative framework on their website to foster partner and public engagement in the SRCL’s work.

For more information, visit: https://www.onetam.org/sites/default/files/basic/TLC_Case_Study_3_Final_7-26-17.pdf



TAPASH SUSTAINABLE FOREST COLLABORATIVE

CASE STUDY

INTEGRATED ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative is comprised of the Yakama Nation, The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. This coalition of public, non-profit, and tribal land managers is organized under a Memorandum of Understanding, and works cooperatively to overcome the constraints of the “checkerboard ownership pattern” developed in the 19th century.

The convening partners used a process developed by the Nature Conservancy called “conservation action planning” to structure the scope, overall project vision, desired ecological outcomes, and clear strategies that achieve the shared vision of this forested area. The Tapash Collaborative decided to form a work group of staff practitioners who meet regularly, an executive

committee to set strategic direction, and an organizational leadership function for directors. The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative landscape is located outside Yakima, Washington and extends from the forested flanks of the East Cascades to the arid, sage-dotted hills of the Columbia Basin. This area is home to the few remaining mature groves of ponderosa pine in the state and has significant challenges to forest health including drought, disease, and altered fire regimes. All of these factors are exacerbated by the difficulty of coordination due to the checkerboard land ownership pattern in the area. Because of these challenges, stakeholders saw working together as the best way to tackle these threats successfully.

The Tapash Collaborative sees efficiency, communications, trust, and innovative resource management as byproducts of positive collaboration. This group provides coordination, funding, facilitation, and engagement with interest groups, local citizens and academia that enhances management decision-making. Joint

problem-solving moves projects forward in a way that balances economic, cultural, social and ecological values. The Tapash Collaborative has spearheaded initiatives related to ecological restoration, land acquisition and conservation, timber supply assessments, prescribed burns, and wildfire education, programming, and technical assistance.

MANATASH TANEUM RESILIENCE LANDSCAPES: A RESTORATION PROJECT

In the Eastern Cascades, land management has been shifting to focus on ecological restoration as a response to climate change and past management practices. The Tapash Collaborative partners evaluated priority areas across the 2.3 million acre Tapash landscape and identified watersheds within the Manatash-Taneum landscape as a priority for restoration treatments. They also conducted land manager workshops and field tours to confirm these priority areas and set ecological restoration goals, objectives, and strategies.

This partnership launched the Manatash-Taneum Resilient Landscape Restoration Project as a flagship effort to demonstrate cross-ownership,

integrated terrestrial and aquatic landscape scale ecosystem restoration. The project area is 90,000 acres and includes ownership from four different agencies. During this project, 22,600 acres of ownership were transferred to consolidate lands for more efficient management. 78,650 acres were evaluated in a Human Ecology mapping survey to understand human use and values. 16 agencies participated in the Prescribed Fire Training Exchange while 557 acres of prescribed burns completed across the project area. During the restoration project, 133,000 trees were planted and 3,000 acres of forest thinning occurred.

LESSONS LEARNED

Similar to the Tapash Collaborative, the SRCL includes natural lands that are owned and managed by a multitude of agencies. Inspiration can be gleaned from the Manatash Taneum project from their use of collecting measurable outcomes, strategically analyzing high priority watershed areas for restoration and management, and collectively establishing project goals, objectives and strategies.

For more information, visit: <http://www.tapash.org/>





WHITE MOUNTAIN TRAIL COLLECTIVE CASE STUDY

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATED TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

The mission of the White Mountain Trail Collective (WMTc) is to preserve the legacy of trail stewardship in the White Mountains Region by supporting and enhancing sustainable care of its trails.

The White Mountain Trail Collective (WMTc) was established in 2017 to overcome the trail related challenges found throughout the White Mountains and to unite trail supporters and organizations through a collective impact strategy. To address these challenges, the WMTc is orchestrating project and volunteer management for on-the-ground trail construction and maintenance efforts that often include multiple agency/organization partners. This requires streamlining communication to keep all trail maintainers in-touch and informed, establishing external communications to raise public awareness and obtain funding from all available sources, and managing data entry and administration.

This organizational infrastructure helps focus

individual and club maintainer's efforts thereby compounding the overall efficacy of their work, as well as reducing competition over funding. By freeing trail organizations of the administrative burden, providing a more strategic allocation and interface with resources, and speaking with a unified voice, trail stewardship in the White Mountains will continue to thrive for generations while protecting the trails and preserving the legacy.

WHY IS THE WMTc NEEDED?

While there are numerous agencies and organizations focused on recreational development of the White Mountain region, there was a need for a coordinated regional initiative that looked at these cross-sector issues holistically. The WMTc was particularly needed in this area because:

- Trail maintainers in the White Mountain region (including the Forest Service) are currently competing against one another for the same resources to achieve a common goal.

- Trail clubs and volunteers struggle to obtain the funding needed to hire paid trail crews and acquire the proper tools to do much needed work.
- Many volunteers lack the expertise needed to complete most of the work on trails.
- There is an increasing scarcity of volunteers and paid trail staff, making maintaining infrastructure and trail conditions extremely difficult and improving trail conditions nearly impossible.
- Many organizations lack the knowledge, contacts, or skills to obtain available grant monies, and they don't have an effective way to reach the public or public officials to gain support through donations and legislation.

agencies/organizations as we see in the SRCL.

This includes:

- Volunteer coordination and training,
- Data collection, project coordination and fundraising

The work of the WMTC seems to reflect the Core Values of the SRCL:

- Community and Habitat
- Collaboration and Perseverance
- Protection and Stewardship
- Connectivity and Accessibility

LESSONS LEARNED

The WMTC acts as an umbrella organization or convener organization within the region. This allows them to facilitate projects involving numerous



PARTNER CONTACT SHEET (11.5.20)

Role	Agency/Organization	Name	Title	Email	Phone	1st Meeting Attendance	Planning Meeting prior to 2nd Meeting Site Visits (Feb. 27)	2nd Meeting Response
Primary Land Manager	DCNR - Bureau of State Parks	Paul Zeph	Planner	pazeph@pa.gov		no	invited/ not confirmed	yes
	DCNR - Bureau of State Parks	Brian Heath	Park Manager	brheath@pa.gov		X	invited/confirmed	yes
	DCNR - Bureau of State Parks	Nathaniel Brown	Park Manager	nathanibro@pa.gov	(717) 252-1134	X	invited/confirmed	no
	PA Game Commission	Steve Ferrari	Land Manager (Lancaster)	aferrari@pa.gov	(610) 406-3174	X	invited/confirmed	yes
	PA Game Commission	Kevin Clouser	Land Manager Supervisor	kclouser@pa.gov		X	invited/ not confirmed	no
	Lancaster County Parks & Recreation	Paul Weiss	Parks & Rec Administraor	weissp@co.lancaster.pa.us	(717) 390-7779	no	N/A	yes
	York County Parks & Recreation	Mike Fobes	Director	mefobes@yorkcountypa.gov		no	N/A	yes
Businesses/Utilities (with publically-accessible natural lands)	LCSWMA	Lynne Morrison	Director of Community Relations	lmorrison@lcswma.org		X	N/A	no
Usergroups	Mason-Dixon Trail System	Jim Hooper	PA Director	jimhooper07@gmail.com		X	N/A	yes
	Mason-Dixon Trail System	Tim Schmidt	President	wanderfool@comcast.net		No		
	Lancaster Hiking Club	Cynthia Krom	President	cynthiakrom@yahoo.com				
	Lancaster Hiking Club	Richard Manix	President	roverrange00@gmail.com	(917) 494-5901	X	invited/confirmed	yes
	Lancaster Hiking Club	Jack Powers	Member	hiker.jack@centurylink.net		N/A	invited/confirmed	yes
	Lancaster Hiking Club	Jeff Brethauer	Member	jeff.brethauer@fandm.edu		N/A	invited/confirmed	yes
	Martic Township Rail Trail Advisory Committee	John Lahr	Member	johnlahr324@gmail.com		X	N/A	yes
Resource Provider (funding, in-kind, services)	DCNR - Bureau of Recreation & Conservation	Lori Yeich	Recreation and Conservation Manager	lyeich@pa.gov	(717) 702-2043	X	invited/ not confirmed	yes
	DCNR - Bureau of Recreation & Conservation	Tom Ford	Director - BRC	tford@pa.gov		N/A	N/A	yes
	National Park Service	Jackie Kramer		jackie_kramer@nps.gov	(717) 252-0229	No	N/A	
	DCNR - Bureau of Forestry (William Penn District)	Stephen Wacker	District Forester	swacker@pa.gov	(610) 582-9660	X	N/A	yes
	PA Natural Heritage Program/Western PA Conservancy	Rachel Goad						
Primary Stakeholders	Lancaster County Planning Commission	Mike Domin	Principal Planner	Domin@co.lancaster.pa.us	(717) 299-8333	X	N/A	no
	York County Planning Commission	Anne Walko	Senior Planner	awalko@ycpc.org	(717) 771-9870	X	N/A	yes

PARTNER PROFILE

PA DCNR, Bureau of State Parks/ Gifford Pinchot State Park Complex



Point of Contact: Brian Heath, Park Operations Manager/ Nate Brown, Assistant Park Manager/ Paul Zeph, Planning Section Chief

Phone Number: Brian Heath, Gifford Pinchot SP: 717-432-5011; Nate Brown, Sam Lewis SP: 717-52-1134; Paul Zeph: 717-783-3340

Email Address: brheath@pa.gov, nathanibro@pa.gov, pazeph@pa.gov

Mailing Address: Brian Heath, Gifford Pinchot State Park, 2200 Rosstown Road, Lewisberry PA 17339/ Nate Brown, Samuel S. Lewis State Park/ Susquehannock State Park, 6000 Mt Pisgah Rd, York, PA 17406 / Paul Zeph, DCNR Bureau of State Parks, PO BOX 8551, Harrisburg PA 17105-8551

Website: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/GiffordPinchotStatePark/Pages/default.aspx>

MISSION

- **DCNR:** To conserve and sustain Pennsylvania's Natural resources for present and future generations' use and enjoyment.
- **Bureau of State Parks:** Provide opportunities for enjoying healthful outdoor recreation and serve as outdoor classrooms for environmental education. In meeting these purposes, the conservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic, and historical values of parks should be given first consideration. Stewardship responsibilities should be carried out in a way that protects the natural outdoor experience for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

VISION

As Pennsylvania's leader and chief advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation, DCNR will inspire citizens to:

- Value their natural resources
- Engage in conservation practices
- Experience the outdoors

To conserve and maintain Pennsylvania's public natural resources for the benefit of all people, including generations yet to come, we will take intentional action to ensure DCNR lands are accessible to all, provide inclusive and equitable programs and services, and recruit and retain a diverse workforce.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The SRCL partnership provides DCNR the opportunity to work cooperatively on issues of common concern throughout the Landscape, which serves to elevate conservation and recreation opportunities for everyone. Our goals include:

- Conserving and protecting the natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources
- Strengthening positive relationships between people and the natural and cultural heritage of the Susquehanna River corridor
- Supporting local economic activity through physical connections
- Promoting local business and employment based on conservation, sustainable use, and enjoyment of the river corridor's resources
- Sustaining farming, forestry, and other components of the rural economy
- Encouraging place-based economic activity in the towns by positioning them as gateways to the river corridor
- Promoting visitation in selected niche markets (heritage, eco-tourism, and agri-tourism) consistent with maintaining the carrying capacity of the natural and built infrastructure

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

We need an **in-depth inventory** of natural, cultural, and recreational resources so that we may better understand and plan for addressing our needs in the decades ahead.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

We have somewhat **stable staff** and funding to perform basic functions and duties, and possible **additional funding** for focused projects. Also, many years of **experience** to draw upon within the State Parks system statewide of managing nearly 300,000 acres of public lands.

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:03:22 PM
Last Modified: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:15:57 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:35
IP Address: 71.255.136.242

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Brian Heath, Park Operations Manager

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

Gifford Pinchot State Park, 2200 Rosstown Road, Lewisberry PA 17339

Q4

State Parks

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

2

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

York County south of Rt 30 ,

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Lancaster County south of Rt 30

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

815.275

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Preservation, conservation, recreation, education.

Q9

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Other (please specify):

Yes, each state park has a management plan that is reviewed and updated every three years. Once the Pinnacle property legally becomes state park property it, will be incorporated into the Susquehannock State Park Management Plan.

Q10

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Other (please specify):

No none of them do- Park Management Plans are internal guidance documents for Bureau lands. While not created in conjunction with adjacent land managers, consideration is given toward liaising with local entities. A recommendation being proposed as part of our current strategic planning process is to examine each state park from a regional context and modify planning to better coordinate with other public and protected private lands in the region.

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

**Forest/Woodland,
Parks**

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Wildlife habitat	3
Active farmland	N/A
Active forestry	N/A
Agroforestry	N/A
Active recreation	2
Passive recreation	1
Water quality	6
Environmental restoration	5
Invasive species contro	4

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, some of them do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hiking ,
 Horseback riding,
 Cycling: paved road, gravel road, cinder trail (i.e. 'rail trail')
 ,
 Cross country skiing,
 Geocaching,
 Scientific study; citizen science,
 Scientific study; university,
 Scientific study; professional scientist,
 Other (please specify):
 organized group camping

Q15

Yes

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

Most of them do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Duncan parcel has no Bureau-owned parking, a need for which has not been identified

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Not shared; only nearby parking area for Duncan property is within SGL 181

Q19

Yes

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

Parking facilities are designed for average use volumes. Anomalous visitation increases are managed per occurrence.

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

AND yes, social trails ; Samuel Lewis, Susquehannock

Q23

Hiking only ,

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Multimodal/Shared-use,

Please list all uses allowed on your shared use trails: :

Hiking permitted on all trails, Equestrian and Cross country

Skiing limited to specific trails. No mountain biking trails.

ATV's prohibited.

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

All approved trails

Q26**Yes**

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Mason Dixon; Conestoga

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking	2
Bathrooms/Portajohns	2
Trash cans	2
Kiosks/Interpretive signage	2
Wayfinding	2
Seating	2
Picnic facilities (i.e. picnic table, pavilions, etc.)	2
Potable water	2
Other (please specify):	overnight (2)

Q29**Yes, most**

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Parking, bathrooms, trash collection, interpretive signage, wayfinding signage, seating, picnicking, potable water and overnight amenities are provided in appropriate areas.

Q31

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Amenity upgrades underway at various locations

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others
Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Management Agreement w/Lancaster Conservancy RE: Pinnacle

Q34**Staff**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35**General public**

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36**Yes**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals ? Check all that apply.

Chainsaw,
Other gas powered equipment ,
Manual/hand-tools,
Plant identification

Q38**Yes**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Waivers,
Certificate of trainings (i.e. chainsaw, first aid, etc.),
Certificate of insurance

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Bureau of Forestry, PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Game Commission, where appropriate

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

We are challenged by all of these issues as public pressure for recreation increases and government resources decrease. We are currently examining all aspects of our park system statewide to identify creative ways to better care for the lands under our jurisdiction while providing the safe and healthy environment that visitors expect while visiting a state park.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

DCNR is moving toward a greater emphasis on natural and historical resource management, so allocation of staff and resources may increase in those areas in the coming decades.

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

The opportunity to work more cooperatively and in conjunction with other land managers in the landscape.

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

Very important, especially given that there is such a patchwork of properties and given that the terrain makes access difficult. Working cooperatively enables every partner to share access, resources, and knowledge.

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation



Point of Contact: Paul Weiss, Parks and Recreation Administrator

Phone Number: (717) 390-7779

Email Address: weissp@co.lancaster.pa.us

Mailing Address: 1050 Rockford Road, Lancaster, PA 17602

Website: www.lancastercountyparks.org

MISSION

The Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation is committed to improving the well being of County residents by providing facilities and programs that encourage participation in outdoor activities and foster personal action for the conservation of natural resources.

VISION

N/A

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape is the “setting” for one of nine County Parks and provides the opportunities to view and manage this Park in the framework of a regional context. Our goals related to the natural lands in the Susquehanna Riverlands is to meet our mission as it pertains to Chickies Rock County Park including providing the necessary amenities for public access and managing the natural resources in a sustainable fashion.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

Expertise and additional **staffing** particularly with regards to the ecological components of natural lands management at Chickies Rock County Park.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

- **Maintenance**, Law Enforcement (**Rangers**) staff and related **equipment**
- **Funding** from the County of Lancaster
- Extensive **experience** throughout the Department in various fields related to Parks and Recreation Management

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, May 16, 2020 11:30:52 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, May 16, 2020 11:40:16 AM
Time Spent: 00:09:23
IP Address: 24.59.86.21

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Paul Weiss, Parks and Recreation Administrator

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

1050 Rockford Road, Lancaster, PA 17602

Q4

County Parks

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

None

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

Lancaster County north of Rt 30

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

361

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Trail maintenance, mowing, invasive species control, planning and development, wildlife species management (i.e. hunting regulations)

Q9

Yes, some of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

No, none of them do,

Other (please specify):

The region with with management plan lies within the middle of our property so it is not adjacent to any third-part properties.

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Forest/Woodland,

Farmland ,

Meadow/Old Field ,

Parks

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Wildlife habitat	4
Active farmland	6
Active forestry	7
Agroforestry	8
Active recreation	2
Passive recreation	1
Water quality	9
Environmental restoration	5
Invasive species contro	3
Climate change	N/A

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, they all do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hunting; Archery only,
 Hiking ,
 Cycling: paved road, gravel road, cinder trail (i.e. 'rail trail')
 ,
 Kayaking and canoeing,
 Fishing ,
 Educational/Interpretive Programming,
 Scientific study; university,
 Scientific study; professional scientist

Q15

Yes

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

They all do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

No

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

No

Q19

Yes

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

Under normal conditions, some of the parking facilities in Chickies Rock are periodically at maximum capacity or beyond. During extreme conditions as we have seen in the past few months, our parking lots were continually beyond maximum capacity.

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

Note- social AND approved trails. Chickies Rock County Park (both east and west of Route 441)

Q23

Multimodal/Shared-use,

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Please list all uses allowed on your shared use trails: :
Hiking, biking, rollerblading

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

All of the County-park approved trails are mapped. Social trails are not mapped.

Q26**Yes**

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking	3
Bathrooms/Portajohns	2
Trash cans	2
Kiosks/Interpretive signage	2
Wayfinding	2
Seating	1
Picnic facilities (i.e. picnic table, pavilions, etc.)	1

Q29**Yes, most**

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Parking (see #18 above)

Trash cans - Day use areas have adequate trash cans. All other locations are carry-in, carry-out.

Port-a-pots - Units are provided to support the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail. The number of units is adjusted to meet demand.

Seating and picnic tables - Supply meets demand. Additional picnic tables can be provided if demand increases.

Q31**Respondent skipped this question**

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

South-Central Pennsylvania Climbers - To provide assistance with management and maintenance of climbing trails on Chickies Rock.
Northwest Lancaster County River Trail Advisory Council - To provide consistent management practices and policies along the Trail as it runs through various municipalities each with jurisdiction over their portion of the trail.

Q34**Both**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35**Self-organized User Groups**

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36**No**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37**Manual/hand-tools,****Plant identification**

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38**No**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39**Waivers,****Certificate of insurance**

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

South Central Pennsylvania Climbers, Lancaster Soaring Society, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Susquehanna Regional Police Dept.

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Vandalism and other illicit activity related to public access, creation of none-sanctioned trails, safety compliance at the Chickies Rock Main Overlook, managing conflicting user demands, way finding to direct visitors to specific features within the Park

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Improving way finding, increasing parking for the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail, coordinating with Marietta Borough on improvement to the trail in the Furnace Road Day Use Area.

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

The most important significance for the Parks Dept. would be to create partnerships that enhance and strengthen grant applications from each agency within the partnership.

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

I think it is important to recognize that the agencies within the SRCL have varying priorities for management of their lands. To expect that all of the agencies will unify those priorities is probably unrealistic. However there is value if the SRCL can establish even limited collaborative management goals that do not conflict with individual agency priorities.

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes.

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

York County Department of Parks and Recreation



Point of Contact: Michael E Fobes, Parks Director
Phone Number: (717) 840-7228
Email Address: mefobes@yorkcountypa.gov
Mailing Address: 400 Mundis Race Road, York PA 17406
Website: <https://yorkcountypa.gov/parks-recreation.html>

MISSION

York County Department of Parks Recreation enhances the quality of community life acting as a steward for the environment. In this capacity, it acquires, conserves, and manages park lands and offers a variety of recreational and educational opportunities.

VISION

York County Department of Parks and Recreation strives to be the County leader in environmental conservation, preservation, and education. Programs and projects in these areas reflect sound management and stewardship principles and a strong organizational commitment to innovation and public service.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSEQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

To preserve historic aspects of Native Lands and also provide recreational opportunities in Highpoint Scenic Vista Recreational Area and Apollo County Park.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

Better **public access** to Native Lands is a priority for us. **Parking** is very limited at the Zimmerman House.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

A great place to offer **recreational opportunities**. We also like to team with other to **educate** those visiting us at our parks.

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, April 01, 2020 10:12:55 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, April 01, 2020 10:33:24 AM
Time Spent: 00:20:29
IP Address: 173.163.45.221

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Michael Fobes, Parks Director

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

York County Department of Parks and Recreation

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

400 Mundis Race Road, York PA 17406

Q4

County Parks

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Respondent skipped this question

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

York County south of Rt 30

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

approx. 616 acres

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

passive recreation

Q9

Yes, some of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Yes, all of them do

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

**Forest/Woodland,
Meadow/Old Field ,
Parks**

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Wildlife habitat	2
Active farmland	5
Active forestry	4
Agroforestry	N/A
Active recreation	8
Passive recreation	1
Water quality	7
Environmental restoration	3
Invasive species contro	6
Climate change	9

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13**Yes, they all do**

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hiking ,**Horseback riding,****Mountain biking,****Cross country skiing,****Fishing ,****Camping; Backcountry camping (designated locations)****,****Geocaching,****Scientific study; university****Q15****No**

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16**They all do**

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Native Lands. We are using the Zimmerman House and Klines Run for parking...but on-site parks would greatly enhance the area

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Native Lands shares parking with the Zimmerman House and Klines Run Park

Q19**No**

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

Highpoint and Apollo parking is ok. Native Lands needs more parking.

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

Highpoint Scenic Vista, Native Lands and Apollo County Park

Q23

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Please list all uses allowed on your shared use trails: :
we do multi use trails - hiking, mt biking and horseback riding

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

All three parks

Q26

Yes

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Mason Dixon Trail

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking	3
Bathrooms/Portajohns	1
Trash cans	1
Kiosks/Interpretive signage	2
Wayfinding	1
Seating	1
Picnic facilities (i.e. picnic table, pavilions, etc.)	1
Potable water	1

Q29**No**

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Highpoint - amenities ok

Q31

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Apollo County park - no restrooms

Native Lands - better parking - bulletin boards and trail system.

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Klines Run Park allows park visitors to access Native Lands through their property

The Zimmerman House allows parking and park access to Native Lands

Q34

Staff

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

General public

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36

Yes

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

Manual/hand-tools

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38

Yes

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

Waivers

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Zimmerman House

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

managing new types of recreation...electronics where it be drones, bikes or other devices.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

New funding set in place to acquire new parkland to protect our borders

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

Q44

Respondent skipped this question

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRC L collaboratively?

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA)



Point of Contact: Lynne Morrison, Director of Community Relations

Phone Number: 717-696-5055

Email Address: lmorrison@lcswma.org

Mailing Address: 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster PA 17604

Website: www.lcswma.org

MISSION

LCSWMA's mission is to manage waste as a resource to protect and benefit our community.

VISION

Rethinking waste for a sustainable future.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

Create public recreation opportunities to improve livability.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

N/A

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

LCSWMA utilizes our staff to provide **expertise and labor** to maintain some of the public lands we own, We also partner with other entities.

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, May 16, 2020 11:44:21 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, May 16, 2020 12:16:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:32:02
IP Address: 24.59.86.21

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Nicholas Kohr, Director of Capital Projects

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17604

Q4

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Nature Preserves,

Regional Trail

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

N/A

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Lancaster County north of Rt 30 ,

Lancaster County south of Rt 30

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

Approx. 965 acres

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

Respondent skipped this question

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Q9

Yes, some of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Yes, some of them do

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

Forest/Woodland,

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Farmland ,

Parks,

Wetlands

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, some of them do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

Respondent skipped this question

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Q15

Respondent skipped this question

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

Some of them do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

No

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Yes.

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail.

Turkey Hill Trail

Q19

Yes

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Respondent skipped this question

Why or why not?

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

Chestnut Grove Natural Area

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail

Turkey Hill Trail

Q23**Hiking only ,**

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply. **Horseback only**

Q24**Yes**

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

Chestnut Grove Natural Area

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail

Turkey Hill Trail

Q26**Yes**

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking **3**

Bathrooms/Portajohns **2**

Kiosks/Interpretive signage **2**

Q29**Yes, some**

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Q31

Respondent skipped this question

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32

Respondent skipped this question

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Q34

Other (please specify):
staff and Township and/or Conservancy

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

Respondent skipped this question

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36

No

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

Respondent skipped this question

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38

Respondent skipped this question

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

Respondent skipped this question

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Conoy Township
Lancaster County Conservancy

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

Respondent skipped this question

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Q42

Respondent skipped this question

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

Extremely Important

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

YES

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

PA Game Commission - Lancaster County



Point of Contact: Steve Ferreri, Land Manager/Game Warden

Phone Number: 610-406-3174

Email Address: aferreri@pa.gov

Mailing Address: 132 Sunnyside Rd. Newmanstown, PA 17073

Website: www.pgc.pa.gov

MISSION

To manage Pennsylvania's wild birds, wild mammals, and their habitats for current and future generations.

VISION

Champion all wildlife resources and Pennsylvania's hunting and trapping heritage.

"A Vision for the Future" Video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2XgKqeOQA8&feature=youtu.be>)

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

Conserving public open spaces and preventing land use changes helps protect wildlife habitat. A collaborative approach to fostering and furthering this concept is important. SRCL goals and objectives could be included in our State Game Lands Comprehensive Management Plans. Our goals include:

- Promote and enhance habitat for wildlife and collaborate with other land managers.
- Ensure public lands are available for hunting and trapping opportunities.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

- Have more of a regional collaborative approach to ensure all goals are being met.
- Potentially acquire more lands to ensure long term survival of diverse habitats

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Locally we have habitat maintenance employees, regional foresters, and biologists. Funding can be allocated to State Game Lands and properties in our cooperative access program. The list of equipment ranges from hand tools to large tractors w/ implements.

PARTNER PROFILE

PA Game Commission - York County



Point of Contact: Eric Horsh, Land Management Group Supervisor

Phone Number: 717-676-8282

Email Address: ehorsh@pa.gov

Mailing Address: 85 Game Rd Dillsburg, PA 17019

Website: www.pgc.pa.gov

MISSION

Preserve wildlife habitat.

VISION

Manage and improve habitat for both game and none game species with through the use of agency and ngo manpower and funding.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSEQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

Reduce the impact of ever increasing development to ensure future generations can enjoy the outdoors both through hunting and other outdoor recreation.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

Expertise is a high priority need. The location compared to our office location makes it difficult for our staff to spend the needed time to make sound management decisions.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

We have a **crew** of 3 personnel that manage game lands in York county with a full compliment of **equipment**.

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 12:39:56 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 12:54:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:49
IP Address: 8.20.65.4

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Steve Ferreri (Land Manager / State Game Warden)

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Pennsylvania Game Commission

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

Region Office: 253 Synder Rd, Reading, PA 19605 Habitat Crew: 132 Sunnyside Rd, Newmanstown, PA 17073

Q4**Game lands**

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

Regions: 2 (Southeast- Lancaster, Southcentral- York)

Land Management Groups: 2 (Southeast- Lancaster, Southcentral- York)

Law Enforcement: 3 Districts (2 in Lancaster, 1 in York)

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6**York County south of Rt 30 ,****Lancaster County south of Rt 30**
Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

Lancaster: 87 acres York: 1,148 (Doesn't include coop property)

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Habitat management (prescribed fire, forest management, native field maintenance, infrastructure, invasive species etc) and law enforcement.

Q9

Yes, all of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Yes, some of them do

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Forest/Woodland,
Farmland ,
Meadow/Old Field ,
Wetlands ,
Riparian buffers

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Wildlife habitat	1
Active farmland	9
Active forestry	2
Agroforestry	N/A
Active recreation	8
Passive recreation	5
Water quality	6
Environmental restoration	4
Invasive species contro	3
Climate change	7

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, some of them do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hunting; Archery and Firearm,
Hiking ,
Horseback riding,
Mountain biking,
Cross country skiing,
Kayaking and canoeing,
Fishing ,
Educational/Interpretive Programming,
Geocaching,
Scientific study; citizen science,
Scientific study; university,
Scientific study; professional scientist

Q15

Yes

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

Most of them do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Yes SGL 288

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Yes SGL 288

Q19

No

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

Most are too small or limited in this area.

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

SGL 288 Conestoga Trail, SGL 83 and 181 Mason Dixon Trail

Q23

Please list all uses allowed on your shared use trails: :

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Most are hiking only. Some designated routes in the state allow horses and bikes

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

All trails on game lands are in our GIS system.

Q26**Yes**

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

SGL 288 Conestoga Trail, SGL 83 and 181 Mason Dixon Trail

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking	3
Trash cans	1
Kiosks/Interpretive signage	2
Wayfinding	1

Q29**Yes, most**

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Most usage on State Game Lands is passive so parking and signage is adequate.

Q31**Respondent skipped this question**

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Our public access program has 2.2 million acres of enrolled properties. Specifically in the SRCL area, Lancaster Conservancy and local farms constitute the majority of the cooperators.

Q34**Staff**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

General public,
Self-organized User Groups

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36**Yes**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Chainsaw,
Other gas powered equipment ,
Manual/hand-tools,
Plant identification,
Other (please specify):
Prescribed fire certification

Q38**Yes**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

Waivers,
Certificate of trainings (i.e. chainsaw, first aid, etc.)

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Ruffed Grouse Society, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, National Wild Turkey Federation, DCNR, Fort Indiantown Gap, Middle Creek Volunteers, and various qualified individuals for prescribed fire.

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

- More staff and funds to catch up with forest age distribution goals
 - Land use and ownership fragmentation
 - Forest health
 - Invasive species
-

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

- Currently federal PR funds are steady which enables us to fund larger projects on State Game Lands.
-

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

Utilization of a united voice to promote habitat management activities and to identify needs in the SRCL area.

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

The more collaboration the better the results

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 01, 2020 1:51:08 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 01, 2020 2:00:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:46
IP Address: 8.20.65.4

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Eric R. Horsh

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

PA Game COmmission

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

Dillsburg

Q4

Game lands

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

not sure.

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

York County south of Rt 30

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

1600

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

enhancing and maintaining wildlife habitat

Q9

Yes, all of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

No, none of them do

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Forest/Woodland,
Farmland ,
Meadow/Old Field ,
Wetlands ,
Riparian buffers

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Active forestry	4
Passive recreation	5
Environmental restoration	10
Invasive species contro	8
Climate change	1

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, they all do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hunting; Archery only,
Hunting; Archery and Firearm,
Hunting; Firearm but no rifle,
Hiking ,
Fishing ,
Scientific study; university,
Scientific study; professional scientist

Q15

No

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

They all do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Respondent skipped this question

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

no

Q19

Yes

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

Smaller game lands with plenty for parking

Q21 Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

only the Maryland PA trail runs through game lands 83 and 181. we do not manage the trail

Q23 Hiking only

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Q24 No

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

not by the agency but is mapped by the trail association

Q26 No

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27 Respondent skipped this question

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking 2

Kiosks/Interpretive signage 2

Q29 No

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Q31**Respondent skipped this question**

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Army Corp of Engineers

Q34**Staff**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35**General public**

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36**Yes**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Chainsaw,
Other gas powered equipment ,
Manual/hand-tools,
Plant identification

Q38**No**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

Waivers

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Respondent skipped this question

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Time and funding.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

habitat restoration

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

Q44

Respondent skipped this question

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRC L collaboratively?

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

I believe the Land Manager from Lancaster county does

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

Lancaster Conservancy



Point of Contact: Brandon Tennis, SVP of Stewardship

Phone Number: 717-392-7891

Email Address: btennis@lancasterconservancy.org

Mailing Address: 117 S. West End Ave. Lancaster, PA 17603

Website: www.lancasterconservancy.org

MISSION

Providing wild and forested lands and clean waterways for our community. Forever.

VISION

N/A

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The 'PPL Deal' helped establish the SRCL. The SRCL is a focus area of our preservation and stewardship efforts. The largest percentage of our in-fee holdings reside within the SRCL. The Conservancy is also the external lead for the SRCL. Our highest priority is to purchase and to protect natural lands with a strategic goal to increase land protected by Conservancy from 5,208 acres to 7,700 acres by December 2020. We care for our land, taking the long view, to preserve biodiversity and community benefit with proper planning and documentation. Our land protection efforts prevent degraded streams and protect headwaters. We promote healthy ecosystems to protect and clean waterways on both our preserves and private properties. We build partnerships with other organizations to leverage our impact. Climbers Run Nature Preserve functions as a community engagement hub. Our lands are open to everyone for recreation and science. The SRCL is critical to guiding our efforts to protect land and water, and engage communities as we expand into York County.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

We need sufficient funding for **staff** and **equipment**. We need sufficient **funding** to perform routine maintenance and improvement projects. We need a strong, skilled **volunteer base**. We need **collaborative planning** efforts to help prioritize our work. We need **enforcement** of rules and regulations.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Our Stewardship **staff** includes: director, project manager (development) and GIS specialist, preserves manager, forester, full-time land steward and seasonal land stewards, seasonal interpretive rangers. Our **equipment** includes hand-tools, gas powered tools, a tractor and mower, a dump truck, old pickup trucks, and trailers.

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 1:58:54 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 2:09:29 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:34
IP Address: 24.59.86.21

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Brandon Tennis

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Lancaster Conservancy

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

117 S. West End Ave, Lancaster, PA

Q4

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Nature Preserves,
Conservation Easement

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

The Conservancy does not have districts.

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

York County north of Rt 30 ,
York County south of Rt 30 ,
Lancaster County north of Rt 30 ,
Lancaster County south of Rt 30

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

4,809

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Enforcement of protection of Conservancy-owned lands.

Healthy habitats

Public access

Restoration

Passive Recreation

Q9

Yes, some of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Yes, some of them do,

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Other (please specify):

Of those that do, only with a small degree of intention.

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Forest/Woodland,

Meadow/Old Field ,

Wetlands ,

Riparian buffers ,

Other (please specify):

Parking areas and primary and secondary trailheads

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Wildlife habitat	1
Active farmland	9
Active forestry	6
Agroforestry	7
Active recreation	N/A
Passive recreation	2
Water quality	3
Environmental restoration	5
Invasive species contro	4
Climate change	8

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, they all do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Hunting; Archery only,
 Hunting; Archery and Firearm,
 Hiking ,
 Horseback riding,
 Cycling: paved road, gravel road, cinder trail (i.e. 'rail trail')
 ,
 Mountain biking,
 Cross country skiing,
 Rock climbing/bouldering,
 Kayaking and canoeing,
 Fishing ,
 Educational/Interpretive Programming,
 Geocaching,
 Scientific study; citizen science,
 Scientific study; university

Q15

Yes

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

Some of them do

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Fishing Creek South Nature Preserve, Conowingo Pond Nature Preserve, Holtwood Nature Preserve, Tucquan Glen Nature Preserve, Pequea Nature Preserve, Otter Creek Nature Preserve, Fox Hollow Nature Preserve, Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve, Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve, Hellam Hills Nature Preserve, Appel Nature Preserve

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Kellys Run Nature Preserve (secondary trailhead) & Pinnacle Overlook, Otter Creek Nature Preserve & Urey Overlook, Otter Creek Nature Preserve & Otter Creek Campground, Turkey Hill Nature Preserve and Enola Low Grade primary trailhead, Fox Hollow Nature Preserve & Gamelands 288, Conowingo Pond & Lock 12

Q19

No

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20

Why or why not?

No, There is a greater demand than there is capacity; oftentimes, this is because of physical constraints of the preserve.

Q21

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

social and approved trails- Ferncliff, Holtwood, Kellys Run, Pinnacle Overlook, Conowingo Pond, Tucquan Glen, Reed Run, House Rock, Steinman Run, Trout Run, Climbers Run, Otter Creek, Shenks Ferry, Turkey Hill, Wilton Meadows, Conoy Wetlands

Inventory Form: Integrated Land Management Plan

Q23

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Hiking only ,

Horseback only,

Please list all uses allowed on your shared use trails: :

The Conservancy does not have blanket regulations prohibiting horseback or mountain biking but we also do not actively promote such use. The Conservancy will post specific individual trails to prohibit unsustainable use.

Q24

Are these trails mapped?

Yes

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

All sanctioned trails on Conservancy properties

Q26

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Yes

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Conestoga Trail, Mason-Dixon Trail, Enola Low Grade Trail, Northwest River Trail

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking	3
Bathrooms/Portajohns	1
Kiosks/Interpretive signage	3
Wayfinding	2
Seating	1

Q29

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Yes, some

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Parking, Interpretive signage, and wayfinding are highest priority for preserves that we manage for passive recreation. Otherwise, preserves managed primarily for habitat have no amenities. Not all passive rec preserves have adequate amenities (based upon Conservancy priorities) currently but the Conservancy is committed to make such improvements when it can.

Q31

Respondent skipped this question

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others
Q32

Yes

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Commission Cooperative Agreement for public hunting, enforcement, funding/technical assistance for habitat and access improvements.

Q34

Staff

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

General public,
Self-organized User Groups

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36

Yes

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

Chainsaw,
Other gas powered equipment ,
Manual/hand-tools,
Plant identification

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38**Yes**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39**Waivers,**

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Certificate of insurance**Q40**

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

PGC, Donegal Trout Unlimited, USDA, FSA, Mason-Dixon Trail Association, municipalities

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

The Conservancy's Stewardship program is understaffed for the size of its portfolio; but yet as a land trust we will continue to grow our portfolio of preserved lands.

Lack of enforcement ability for rules and regulations.

Access and passive recreation are typically prioritized over habitat work and restoration; if they are not then access and visitation tend to negatively impact preserved habitats.

The spread of invasive species and a lack of holistic management across boundary lines.

Insufficient funding for on-going routine maintenance.

Lack of funding opportunities for improvement projects across scale.

Lack of regional planning for conservation and passive recreation; lack of visitor amenities.

Informal coalition of land managers.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Acquiring high ranking parcels that build out a preserved landscape and/or create access to the preserved landscape.

Holistically managing interior forest and sub-watersheds.

Increasing carrying-capacity of the landscape.

Mitigating poor water and poor air quality.

Developing a regional network of trails serving a wide array of visitor needs (i.e. mobility) and wants (i.e. horseback, bike, hiking).

Strong volunteer base.

Protecting viewsheds.

Improving ecosystem health.

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

SRCL provides an identity (i.e. place making).

SRCL provides advocacy and funding for conservation.

SRCL provides a framework for an array of partners to collaborate within.

SRCL adds value to quality of life for residents.

SRCL provides an increased level of priority.

Efforts within the SRCL have a regional impact (i.e. Chesapeake Bay).

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

Extremely. COVID19 has shown us, unequivocally, that people want to be in the land along the Susquehanna River. It has also shown us that currently there is not enough public lands and access to public lands for increased visitation.

We know that conservation is best practiced across scale with large tracts of natural lands serving the greatest ecological good. But improvements are typically best made on a smaller, site specific scale.

Managing collaboratively is most efficient and allows partners to play to their strengths.

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

DCNR/Bureau of Forestry/William Penn Forest District



Point of Contact: Stephen Wacker, Forest District Manager or John Nissen, Forester

Phone Number: 610-858-0055 cell, 610-582-9660 office

Email Address: swacker@pa.gov, jnissen@pa.gov

Mailing Address: 845 Park Road, Elverson, PA 19520

Website: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateForests/FindAForest/WilliamPenn/Pages/default.aspx>

MISSION

The mission of the Bureau of Forestry is to promote forestry, the value of forests, sustainable land use, protection of water resources and conservation of native plants.

VISION

Demonstrate forestry on state forest lands, use all means to communicate to the public, and cooperate with others to engage and teach wherever we can.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The SRCL is part of DCNR's goals. There is potential to demonstrate large scale cooperative sustainable management and to reach many people. Our goals are to support the DCNR Conservation Landscapes, contributing where we can and cooperating especially where CLI goals coincide with BOF's mission. A primary goal for us is also to protect these lands from wildfire.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

The William Penn District does not have any ownership within the SRCL. **Staff** stretched thin. We do have an interest in promoting sustainable land management on any ownership. Would love to partner in ways that **teach sustainable management**.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Knowledge and experience at **land and vegetation management**.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, April 13, 2020 3:27:35 PM
Last Modified: Monday, April 13, 2020 3:34:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:48
IP Address: 24.59.86.21

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1 Respondent skipped this question

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

DNCR/Bureau of Forestry/William Penn Forest District

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

French Creek State Park, Elverson PA

Q4 State-owned natural lands

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

2 forest districts

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6 Respondent skipped this question

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

0

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Sustainable management, education, recreation, watershed protection, rare plant conservation, wildlife conservation. Through timber sales, prescribed burning, herbicide, trail maintenance, etc.

Q9

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Other (please specify):
no lands in this landscape

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Active forestry	3
Passive recreation	2
Water quality	1
Invasive species contro	4

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, they all do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14**Hunting; Archery and Firearm**

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Q15**Respondent skipped this question**

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16**Most of them do**

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17**Respondent skipped this question**

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Q18**Respondent skipped this question**

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Q19**Respondent skipped this question**

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Q20**Respondent skipped this question**

Why or why not?

Q21**Respondent skipped this question**

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

Q23**Respondent skipped this question**

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Q24	Respondent skipped this question
Are these trails mapped?	
<hr/>	
Q25	Respondent skipped this question
If yes, which trails systems are mapped?	
<hr/>	
Q26	Respondent skipped this question
Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?	
<hr/>	
Q27	Respondent skipped this question
If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?	
<hr/>	
Q28	Respondent skipped this question
What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.	
<hr/>	
Q29	Respondent skipped this question
Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?	
<hr/>	
Q30	Respondent skipped this question
If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?	
<hr/>	
Q31	Respondent skipped this question
If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?	
<hr/>	

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32	Yes
Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?	
<hr/>	

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

too numerous to mention

Q34**Both**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

General public,
Friends of Groups ,
Self-organized User Groups

Q36**Yes**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals ? Check all that apply.

Chainsaw,
Plant identification

Q38**Yes**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39**Waivers**

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Many including PGC, corporations, trail organizations, plant conservation groups, regional conservancies,...

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Invasive species, plant and insect pests. Litter and dumping, unauthorized motor vehicle use. High deer impacts.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Large population and many interested people. Potential monetary donations, a large organization with knowledge and experience to draw from.

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

A means to get sustainable management and protection coordinated across ownerships in a region. Demonstrating good practices over a large area and to a large population.

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

Collaboration will get more done more effectively and more efficiently than working alone. It amplifies the message, reaching teaching and inspiring more people.

Q45

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Yes, but with limited staff and no lands in the landscape our role would more one of support of others.

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

Lancaster Hiking Club



Point of Contact: Jeff Brethauer, Board Member

Phone Number: N/A

Email Address: jeff.brethauer@fandm.edu

Mailing Address: N/A

Website: lancasterhikingclub.com

MISSION

To provide a program of outdoor recreation through hiking, promote appreciation and stewardship of the environment, and maintain the Conestoga Trail System.

VISION

N/A

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

Preserving and protecting the Conestoga Trail. It's good to have an overarching entity overseeing the SRCL. At least we have assurance that we'll never have to worry about the future of the Conestoga Trail in that particular area. The north end is always subject to closure if a farmer suddenly closes the trail on his land, so maintaining good relations with the landowners is essential.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

We would like to create **relationships** between our landowners and our hiking club and establish awareness and rapport with landowners where the trail crosses their land (esp. if it's a new landowner). That way, they'll know who we are if they spot us walking across their land. There are times where we might want to reroute the trail, and have identified a route that crosses private land in a new place. To do this, we need to approach that landowner and obtain their permission. Sometimes landowners may have an issue with, for example, trash left on their property, and want to throw us off his land. We need someone to approach that landowner and persuade them not to.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

We have members who do **trail maintenance**, and we own our **equipment**. Not sure these resources are **available** because we're talking about a skeleton crew of volunteers who may or may not be willing to tackle something else.

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:17:38 PM
Last Modified: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:26:53 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:14
IP Address: 71.255.136.242

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Jeff Brethauer

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Lancaster Hiking Club

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Where is your headquarters located?

Q4

Regional Trail

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Respondent skipped this question

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

Respondent skipped this question

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?
?

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

trail maintenance

Q9

Respondent skipped this question

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/land-management goals?

Q11

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Forest/Woodland,

Farmland ,

Parks,

Other (please specify):

floodplains, paved road

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Respondent skipped this question

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Other (please specify):

We don't have enforceable regulations about what activities are permitted, since we don't own the land. ATVs are obviously an incompatible use for any hiking trail, but we can't stop them because we never see them, and it would be unwise to confront them anyway. Basically whatever is permitted by the landowner is an acceptable use. So in the County Park, if the park allows horseback riding, there's not much we could say about it unless there's egregious damage. Same with mountain bikes.

Q15

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Respondent skipped this question

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

No

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

Respondent skipped this question

Q19

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Respondent skipped this question

Q20

Why or why not?

Respondent skipped this question

Q21

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)

Q22

Respondent skipped this question

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

Q23

Respondent skipped this question

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

Conestoga Trail

Q26

Respondent skipped this question

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

Respondent skipped this question

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

Q28

Respondent skipped this question

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Q29

Respondent skipped this question

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

The south and north ends have ample parking. Otherwise, there aren't designated parking areas per se, but it's not an issue.

Q31

Respondent skipped this question

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32

Respondent skipped this question

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

Q34

Volunteers

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35

Respondent skipped this question

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Q36

Respondent skipped this question

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37

Respondent skipped this question

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38

Respondent skipped this question

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39

Respondent skipped this question

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Q40

Respondent skipped this question

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Having enough people willing to help with trail maintenance, and currently a vacant position of trail maintenance "supervisor" or coordinator.

Q42

Respondent skipped this question

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

Q44

Respondent skipped this question

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRC L collaboratively?

Q45

Respondent skipped this question

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Comments?

PARTNER PROFILE

Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.



Point of Contact: James E Hooper, Pennsylvania Director

Phone Number: 717-252-3784

Email Address: j.e.hooper@ieee.org

Mailing Address: 309 Bank Hill Rd, Wrightsivlle, PA 17368

Website: www.masondixontrail.org

MISSION

To build and maintain a 200 mile main hiking trail in three states Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

VISION

To provide a long distance off-the-road hiking trail between Chadds Ford and Whiskey Springs

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSEQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The SRCL It is where the most beautiful part of the Mason-Dixon Trail is. Our goal is to maintain the existing trail originally opened in 1980 and to move more of it off of roads.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

We are an all volunteer organization. We have a need for funds to buy tools and materials.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

We have no paid employees but volunteers from four states. We have tools.

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, April 13, 2020 3:35:41 PM
Last Modified: Monday, April 13, 2020 3:41:34 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:53
IP Address: 24.59.86.21

Page 1: Agency/Organization Information

Q1

Name and title of the individual completing this form:

Tim Schmidt

Q2

What organization or agency do you represent?

Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc

Q3

Where is your headquarters located?

We do not have a headquarters

Q4

Regional Trail

What type of land do you manage? Check all that apply.

Q5

Within your agency, how many agency identified districts overlap with the SRCL?

The main trail follows the Susquehanna on the York side of the river from Brunner Island to Havre de Grace.

The trail actually connects to another Conservation Landscape west of Dillsburg

Page 2: Geographic Information

Q6

York County north of Rt 30 ,

Where are the lands that you manage located in the Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape (SRCL)?

York County south of Rt 30

Q7

How many total acres of land do you manage in the SRCL?

We do not manage land

Page 3: Public Land Management

Q8

What are the primary land management activities your organization is responsible for on your lands?

Build and maintain a 200 mile long hiking trail

Q9

No, none of them do

Does your agency or organization have management plans developed for the lands you manage within the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape?

Q10

No, none of them do

Do your management plans align with adjacent properties/and-management goals?

Q11

**Forest/Woodland,
Farmland ,
Parks**

What land types do your properties include? Check all that apply.

Q12

Rank your agency's management priorities from highest to lowest across these ten choices (1 = Highest, 10 = Lowest). Check N/A for those that your agency does not manage or prioritize.

Active recreation	1
Passive recreation	2

Page 4: Public Access and Activities

Q13

Yes, they all do

Do the properties that you manage have public access?

Q14**Hiking**

What activities are allowed on the lands you manage? Check all that apply and please write N/A for activities that aren't explicitly prohibited.

Q15**No**

Does your agency develop and use Emergency Response Plans for staff and/or public-use considerations?

Page 5: Infrastructure and Amenities

Q16**Some of them do**

Do the properties you manage have parking facilities?

Q17

Do any of your properties need parking facilities? If so, which ones?

Yes, Hellam Hills, Kline Rd and Muddy Creek

Q18

Do any of your properties share parking facilities with other public lands? If so, which ones?

All of them

Q19

Are the parking facilities that you manage adequate in terms of capacity?

Other (please specify):

Hiking has increased greatly in popularity. Need to expand and add parking lots.

Q20**Respondent skipped this question**

Why or why not?

Q21**Yes, approved trails (i.e. planned and/or maintained)**

Are there trails constructed on any of the properties you manage?

Q22

If yes, which properties have trail systems?

We have a map set that shows the route of the existing trail

Q23

Hiking only

What trail use do you manage for or allow? Check all that apply.

Q24

Yes

Are these trails mapped?

Q25

If yes, which trails systems are mapped?

Mson-Dixon Trail System

Q26

Yes

Are there regional/long-distance trails present on any of the properties that you manage?

Q27

If so, what is the name of the trail(s)?

We are the long distance trail on the York side of the river

Q28

What amenities does your agency prioritize? Write '3' for high-priority, '2' for priority, '1' for low priority, or '0' for no priority.

Parking

3

Q29

Respondent skipped this question

Do the lands that you manage have adequate visitor amenities?

Q30

If yes, can you list the amenities you currently provide and explain why they are adequate?

Depends on land owner

Q31

If no, can you provide additional detail on what is needed and where?

We need facilities for backpackers (lean-tos or tent sites).

Page 6: Volunteers and Collaboration with Others

Q32**Yes**

Do you have a cooperative agreement with any other agencies or organizations?

Q33

If yes, please indicate which agencies or organizations and the purpose of agreement

No written agreements except with the power companies

Q34**Volunteers**

Who is responsible for land management activities on your agency/organization's lands?

Q35**General public,**

What kinds of volunteers do you engage?

Self-organized User Groups**Q36****Yes**

Do you have a need for volunteers to assist your management goals?

Q37**Chainsaw**

What trainings do your volunteers need to assist your management goals? Check all that apply.

Q38**Yes**

Does your agency provide volunteers with training?

Q39**Waivers,**

What requirements do you have of volunteers or volunteer groups

Trail easements,**Certificate of trainings (i.e. chainsaw, first aid, etc.)****Q40**

Which agencies/organizations do you currently partner with on management activities, if any?

York Hiking Club, Chester County Hiking Club, Wilmington Trail Club, Susquehanna National Heritage, York County Parks, Susquehannock State Park, Gifford Pinchott State Park, PA DCNR, MD DNR, Brookfield, Exelon

Page 7: Public Land Management Challenges and Opportunities

Q41

What are the biggest challenges related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

When the trail was connected in 1980, much of it was on dirt roads. Now the roads are paved with enough traffic to make them dangerous. We need to get more of the trail off of roads. This means obtaining permanent right of ways or one of the partners purchasing the land.

Q42

What are the biggest opportunities related to land management that your agency faces? These may relate to public access, ecological health, recreation, stewardship, and more.

Exelon may want to get rid of non-project lands. Will need a land manager obtain the land since M-DTS is not organized to own land.

Q43

What is the significance of the SRCL to your organization and/or land management strategies?

We need more of the lands along the Susquehanna preserved

Q44

How important is it to manage natural lands within the SRCL collaboratively?

Hope to help prioritize which lands to preserve

Q45

Respondent skipped this question

Would you support/participate in a coalition of land managers within the SRCL?

Q46

Additional Comments?

We need to get a set of our latest maps to who is doing the GIS maps.

PARTNER PROFILE

Lancaster County Planning Commission



Point of Contact: Michael Domin, Principal Planner

Phone Number: 717-299-8333

Email Address: domin@co.lancaster.pa.us

Mailing Address: 150 N. Queen St., Suite #320, Lancaster, PA 17603

Website: Lancastercountyplanning.org

MISSION

We believe Lancaster County is a special place. We also know that great places just don't happen. The purpose of the Lancaster County Planning Commission is to ensure that it remains a special place in the future. We will achieve our purpose and vision by: Facilitating inclusive dialogue; Creating shared visions and plans; and helping communities achieve results.

VISION

To be the leader and catalyst for innovative planning and placemaking in Lancaster County.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The Susquehanna Riverlands is a special working landscape that is steeped in the history and the development of the county. While it remains a working landscape today, it serves an additional role of inspiring beauty, a playground for outdoor recreational activities, and scenic contrast to heavily urbanized and agricultural industry that most of the 550,000 residents of Lancaster County live and work in every day. Our goals related to natural lands in the SRCL include:

- Create more places to hike, bike, play, and enjoy nature
- Preserve large, contiguous areas of agricultural and natural lands
- Improve water quality and work together on stormwater management

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

While the Lancaster County Planning Commission itself does not directly manage natural lands, it assist public, private, and non-profit entities in the efforts to protect and preserve land. **Funding to match state grants** is the greatest need.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

The Lancaster County Planning Commission offers **technical assistance** primarily to non-profits and municipalities in the corridor for natural resource protection and preservation, and shared use trail development.

PARTNER PROFILE

York County Planning Commission



Point of Contact: Anne Walko, Senior Planner

Phone Number: 717-771-9870

Email Address: awalko@ycpc.org

Mailing Address: 28 East Market Street, York PA 17401

Website: www.ycpc.org

MISSION

Guiding sustainable development and preservation to improve quality of life in York County communities.

VISION

Our guiding principles to meet our mission are as follows: to provide service to the public and municipalities in a timely and efficient manner; to complete the required tasks in the PA MPC by facilitating sound and professional planning; to provide objective analysis of facts; to implement the Federal and State programs with the highest degree of integrity and accuracy possible; and to provide guidance and resources for sustainable development for the benefit of York County and surrounding areas.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape forms the entire eastern border of York County. The Susquehanna River is the major waterway in York County and at top of mind in our water quality and stormwater management work. The woodlands and slopes along the river are some of the County's most ecologically rich areas with the highest conservation value. Our goals related to natural lands in the SRCL include:

- Achieving balance between promoting economic growth and prosperity; protecting and preserving important historic, cultural, and natural resources; and maintaining the quality of life that residents cherish.
- Meeting our goals of the Growth Management Plan which are to sustain the vitality of our Growth Areas and to protect the Rural Areas, to integrate land use and transportation; to protect natural and cultural resources; to preserve the diversity that makes York County unique, and to facilitate coordinated planning.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

Our agency does not manage publicly accessible natural lands but understands the **staffing and funding needs** of those agencies and organizations that do.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Our agency provides resources to those who manage publicly accessible lands, particularly in the areas of **GIS** and **planning technical assistance**.

PARTNER PROFILE

PA DCNR, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation



Point of Contact: Lori Yeich

Phone Number: 717-702-2043

Email Address: lyeich@pa.gov

Mailing Address: 3240 Schoolhouse Rd. Middletown, PA 17057

Website: www.ycpc.org

MISSION

DCNR's mission is to conserve and sustain Pennsylvania's natural resources for present and future generations' use and enjoyment.

VISION

As Pennsylvania's leader and chief advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation, DCNR will inspire citizens to:

- Value their natural resources
- Engage in conservation practices
- Experience the outdoors

To conserve and maintain Pennsylvania's public natural resources for the benefit of all people, including generations yet to come, we will take intentional action to ensure DCNR lands are accessible to all, provide inclusive and equitable programs and services, and recruit and retain a diverse workforce.

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The SRCL is a priority initiative ingrained in our work. Staff is engaged in several Bureaus. Goals include:

- Citizens value their natural resources
- Support and engage conservation practices to preserve and protect natural resources
- Provide opportunities and accessibility for people to experience the outdoors

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

Continued **engagement** of our Bureau of State Parks.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

I am a resource for **funding** sources.

PARTNER PROFILE

Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program/ Western Pennsylvania Conservancy



Point of Contact: Rachel Goad, Botanist

Phone Number: 717-787-7395

Email Address: rgoad@paconserve.org

Mailing Address: 400 Market St., Floor 5, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Website: <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/>

MISSION

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. PNHP is a member of NatureServe, an international network of natural heritage programs that gather and provide information on the location and status of important ecological resources (plants, vertebrates, invertebrates, ecological communities and geologic features). Our purpose is to provide current, reliable, objective ecological data and analysis to help guide conservation work and land-use planning.

VISION

N/A

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

The significance of the SRCL to us is that a number of botanical hotspots occur along the lower Susquehanna, places with high densities of rare species we consider to be high priorities for conservation, research, and management. Our goal is to collect and provide updated information about rare elements in order to advance their conservation.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

PNHP does not hold land, and WPC does not hold land in this part of the state.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

We have **data** on rare elements and biological and ecological expertise.

PARTNER PROFILE

National Park Service/Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail



Point of Contact: Jackie Kramer, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Phone Number: 410-271-8731

Email Address: jackie_kramer@nps.gov

Mailing Address: 1706 Long Level Rd. Wrightsville, PA 17368

Website: www.nps.gov/cajo

MISSION

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resources conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

VISION

The purposes of the John Smith Chesapeake NHT are to:

- interpret the natural history of the Bay and its tributaries (both historic and contemporary)
- share knowledge about the American Indian societies and cultures of the seventeenth century
- commemorate the exploratory voyages of John Smith on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries in 1607-1609

GOALS RELATED TO NATURAL LANDS IN THE SUSEQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

“The promise of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, then, is to help the millions of people in the region and elsewhere experience, envision, come to understand, and care to protect what the inhabitants and the explorers of the region saw 400 years ago:

- by expanding access to the Bay and rivers
- by protecting special places reminiscent or evocative of those times
- by educating the public of the importance and exceptional nature of the region, its people, and its resources
- by providing recreational experiences throughout the region
- by creating partnerships amongst the many citizens, groups and jurisdictions to realize the vision

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT NEEDS

NPS does not own any land in the Landscape.

SRCL LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

N/A



NATURAL LANDS INVENTORY REPORT

SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS
CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE



ORGANIZATION INFORMATION & GEOGRAPHY

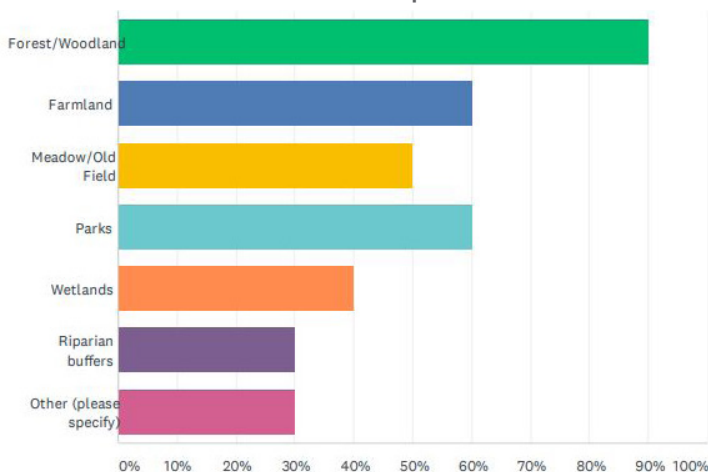
Eleven agencies and organizations that are part of the SRCL partnership responded to this survey. Out of those eleven entities, seven of them are based within Lancaster or York County. Two entities do not have specific headquarter locations. The remaining entities are based outside of the SRCL in counties such as Chester, Lebanon, and Dauphin. The table below shows the types of publicly accessible natural lands within the SRCL each agency/organization manages. Three of the partners do

not actively manage public lands and, instead, bring other resources to this partnership. Graph #1 below indicates the ecosystems/land cover type that make up each agency/organization's natural lands. Within the SRCL, 90%, or 9 out of 11, respondents manage forest/woodland, 60%, or 6 out of 11, also manage farmland and 50%, or 5 out of 11, also manage meadow/old field habitat. Graph #2 shows where publicly accessible natural lands are located within the SRCL.

ORGANIZATION	TYPES OF NATURAL LAND OWNED/MANAGED IN SRCL	TOTAL AMOUNT OF LAND OWNED/MANAGED IN SRCL
York County Department of Parks and Recreation	County Parks	616 acres
DNCR/Bureau of Forestry/William Penn Forest District	State-owned natural lands	0 acres
Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	Regional Trail	69.7 mile trail
Lancaster County Planning Commission	Do not actively manage lands	0 acres
York County Planning Commission	Do not actively manage public lands	0 acres
PA Game Commission	Game lands	1,235 acres
PA DCNR/Bureau of Recreation and Conservation	Do not actively manage public lands	0 acres
Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation	County Parks	361 acres
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority	Nature Preserves, Regional Trail	965 acres
PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks	State Parks	667 acres
Lancaster Hiking Club	Regional Trail	N/A
Lancaster Conservancy	Nature Preserves, Conservation Easements	4,809 acres

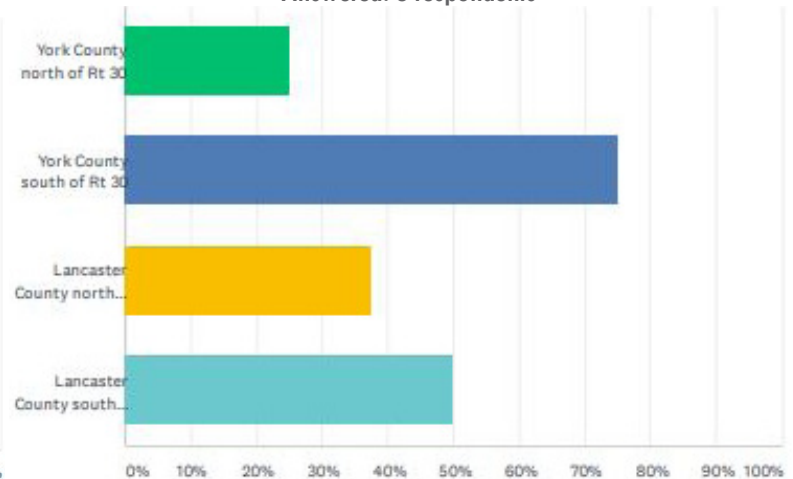
1. WHAT TYPE OF LAND DOES YOUR AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION MANAGE?

Answered: 10 respondents



2. WHERE ARE THE LANDS THAT YOU MANAGE LOCATED IN THE SRCL?

Answered: 8 respondents



PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT & ACCESS

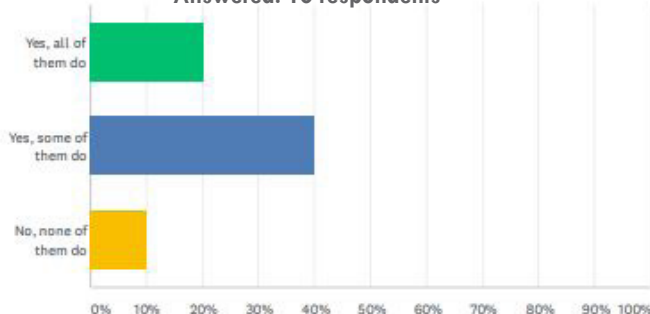
The primary land management activities each agency/organization performs is shown in the table below. While land management partners are engaged in a diversity of management activities, the most prevalent appear to be conservation, habitat management, trail maintenance, and restoration among the different organizations. Graph #3 and #4 identify whether organizations/agencies have management plans in place for any of their lands within the SRCL

and whether they correspond with adjacent land's management goals. 4 out of 7 respondents, which is the majority, indicated that yes, **some** of their lands have management plans. 2 respondents indicated management plans have been created for **all** of their lands. 1 respondent noted that **none** of their lands have plans established. 6 out of 7 respondents noted that either some or all of their land's management goals align with adjacent property's management goals.

ORGANIZATION	PRIMARY LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
York County Department of Parks and Recreation	Passive recreation
DNCR/Bureau of Forestry/William Penn Forest District	Sustainable management, education, recreation, watershed protection, rare plant conservation, wildlife conservation. Through timber sales, prescribed burning, herbicide, trail maintenance, etc.
Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	Trail construction and maintenance
Lancaster County Planning Commission	N/A
York County Planning Commission	N/A
PA Game Commission	Habitat management (prescribed fire, forest management, native field maintenance, infrastructure, invasive species etc) and law enforcement.
PA DCNR/Bureau of Recreation and Conservation	N/A
Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation	Trail maintenance, mowing, invasive species control, planning and development, wildlife species management (i.e. hunting regulations)
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority	N/A
PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks	Preservation, conservation, recreation, education.
Lancaster Hiking Club	Trail maintenance
Lancaster Conservancy	Enforcement of protection of Conservancy-owned lands, healthy habitats, public access, restoration, passive recreation

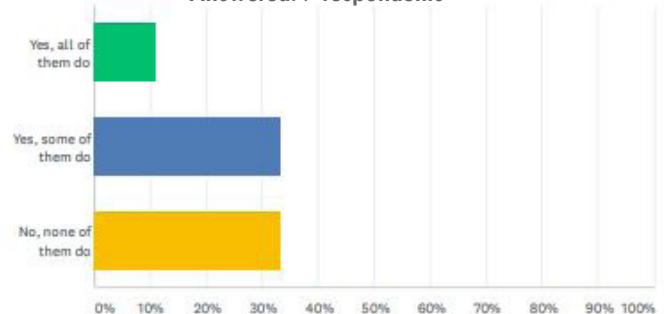
3. DOES YOUR AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION HAVE MANAGEMENT PLANS DEVELOPED FOR SRCL LANDS?

Answered: 10 respondents



4. DO YOUR MANAGEMENT PLANS ALIGN WITH ADJACENT PROPERTIES' LAND MANAGEMENT GOALS??

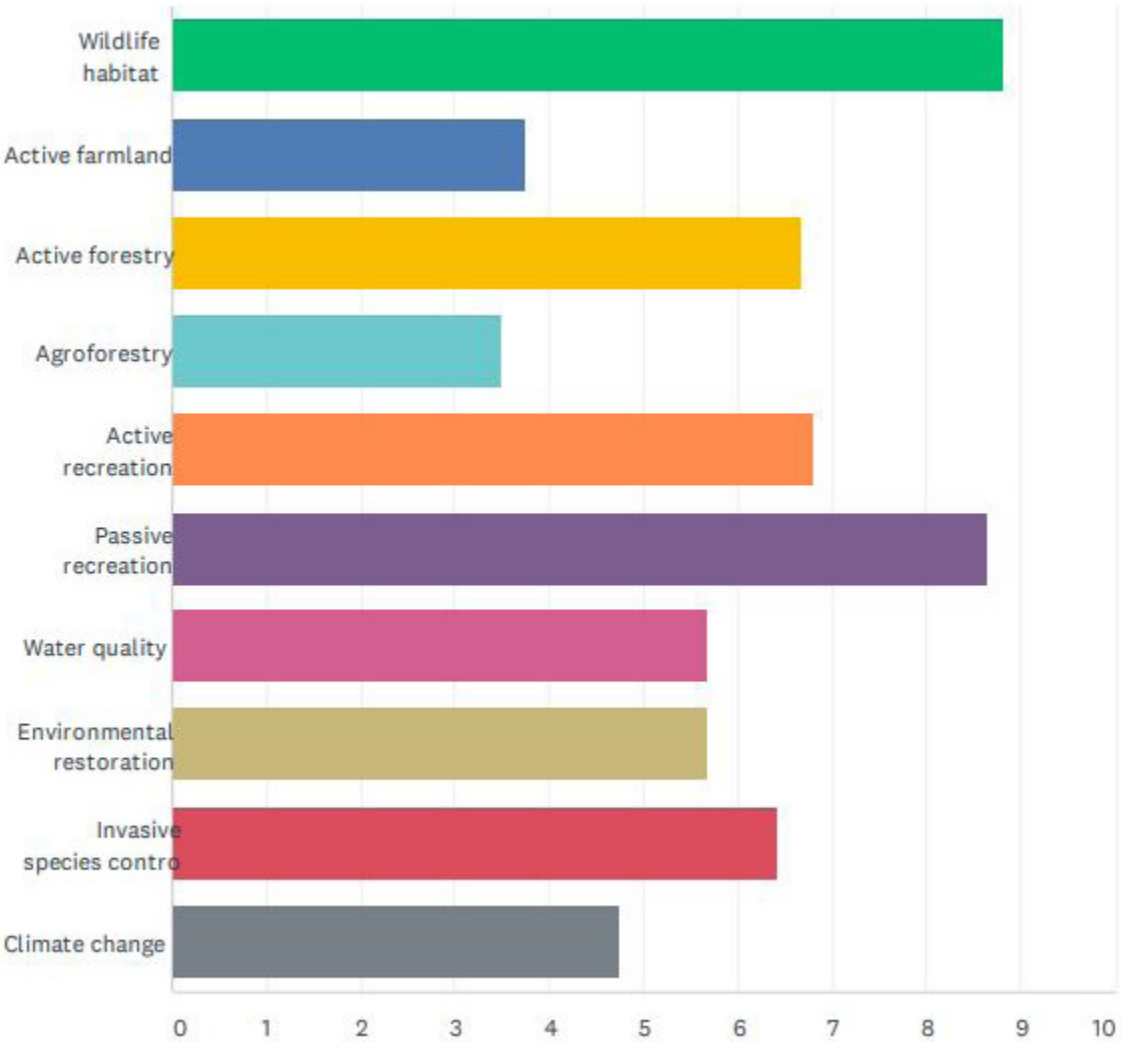
Answered: 7 respondents



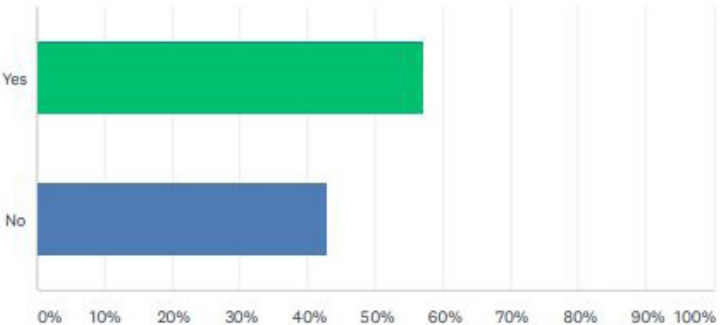
Graph #5 below shows the top ranked land management priorities organizations and agencies identified for their work. Wildlife habitat and passive recreation are the highest priority management considerations, while forestry, active recreation, and invasive species control were also noted as being particularly important. Graph #6 shows which respondents have developed Emergency Response Plans for their lands.

5. HIGHEST RANKED LAND MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Answered: 8 respondents

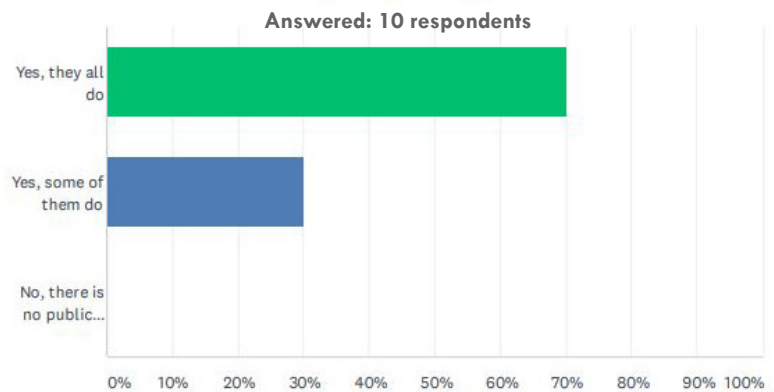


6. DOES YOUR AGENCY DEVELOP AND USE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS FOR STAFF AND/OR PUBLIC USE CONSIDERATIONS?



Graph #7 to the right shows that the majority of natural lands within the SRCL have public access. The table below shows which activities are allowed on the lands each agency/organization manages. It also notes which organizations do not explicitly prohibit certain activities. Based on the information below, a wide diversity of outdoor activities are available for the public in the SRCL sub-region. Hiking is the most prevalent activity allowed on SRCL natural lands, with hunting, fishing, and scientific study are not far behind.

7. DO THE PROPERTIES YOU MANAGE HAVE PUBLIC ACCESS?



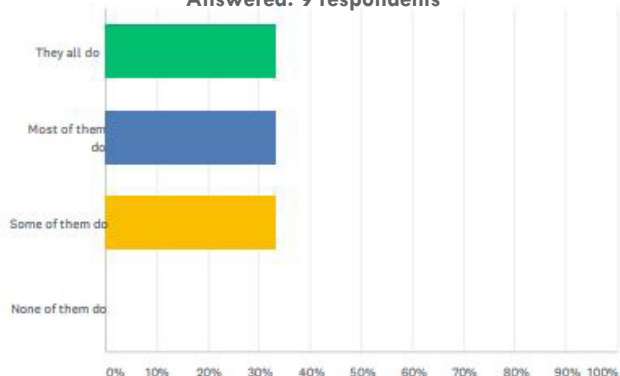
ACTIVITIES PERMITTED ON SRCL LANDS	ORGANIZATIONS
Hunting: archery only	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, DCNR/Bureau of Forestry
Hunting: archery and firearm	Lancaster Conservancy, DCNR/Bureau of Forestry, PA Game Commission
Hunting: firearm, but no rifle	DCNR/Bureau of Forestry
Hiking	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, Mason-Dixon Trail, Inc, York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks, Lancaster Hiking Club
Horseback riding	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited), York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks, Lancaster Hiking Club (not explicitly prohibited)
Cycling: paved road, gravel road, cinder trail (i.e. rail trail)	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited), Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Mountain biking	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited), Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec (not explicitly prohibited), York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, Lancaster Hiking Club (not explicitly prohibited)
Cross country skiing	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited), York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Rock climbing/bouldering	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited)
Kayaking/canoeing	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission
Fishing	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission
Educational/interpretive programming	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission
Camping, backcountry (designated locations)	York County Parks and Rec
Geocaching	Lancaster Conservancy (not explicitly prohibited), York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Scientific study, citizen science	Lancaster Conservancy, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Scientific study, university	Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, York County Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Scientific study, professional scientist	Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec, PA Game Commission, DCNR/Bureau of State Parks
Other	DCNR/Bureau of State Parks: organized group camping, Lancaster Hiking Club: ATV use (not explicitly prohibited)

INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES

As part of inventorying existing infrastructure, this page highlights lands with parking facility needs (shown in the table to the right) and lands that have shared parking (shown in the bottom right). Graph #8 depicts that 1/3 of 9 respondents indicated that all of their lands have parking facilities. 2/3 of respondents noted that either most or some of their lands have parking facilities. Graph #9 shows that there are parking facilities located on natural lands in the SRCL that are not adequate in terms of capacity (30% of respondents indicated this).

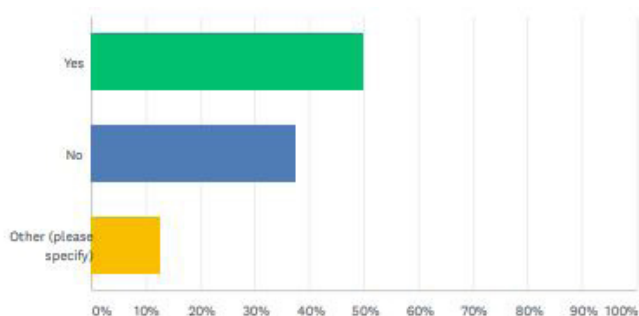
8. DO THE PROPERTIES YOU MANAGE HAVE PARKING FACILITIES?

Answered: 9 respondents



9. ARE THE PARKING FACILITIES YOU MANAGE ADEQUATE IN TERMS OF CAPACITY?

Answered: 8 respondents



LAND MANAGER	LANDS WITH PARKING FACILITY NEEDS
Lancaster Conservancy	Fishing Creek South Nature Preserve, Conowingo Pond Nature Preserve, Holtwood Nature Preserve, Tucquan Glen Nature Preserve, Pequea Nature Preserve, Otter Creek Nature Preserve, Fox Hollow Nature Preserve, Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve, Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve, Hellam Hills Nature Preserve, Appel Nature Preserve
Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	Hellam Hills, Kline Rd, Muddy Creek
PA Game Commission	SGL 288
PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks	Duncan Parcel

LAND MANAGER	LANDS THAT SHARE PARKING
York County Department of Parks and Recreation	Native Lands shares parking with the Zimmerman House and Klines Run Park
Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	All of them
PA Game Commission	SGL 288
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority	Northwest Lancaster County River Trail, Turkey Hill Trail
PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks	Not shared; only nearby parking area for Duncan property is within SGL 181
Lancaster Conservancy	Kellys Run Nature Preserve (secondary trailhead) & Pinnacle Overlook, Otter Creek Nature Preserve & Urey Overlook, Otter Creek Nature Preserve & Otter Creek Campground, Turkey Hill Nature Preserve and Enola Low Grade primary trailhead, Fox Hollow Nature Preserve & Gamelands 288, Conowingo Pond & Lock 12

INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES

ARE TRAILS CONSTRUCTED ON LANDS YOU MANAGE?

LAND OWNER/ MANAGER	ARE THERE TRAILS CONSTRUCTED ON LANDS YOU MANAGE?	LOCATION OF TRAILS
Lancaster Conservancy	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained) and social trails (non-planned/non-maintained)	Ferncliff, Holtwood, Kellys Run, Pinnacle Overlook, Conowingo Pond, Tucquan Glen, Reed Run, House Rock, Steinman Run, Trout Run, Climbers Run, Otter Creek, Shenks Ferry, Turkey Hill, Wilton Meadows, Conoy Wetlands
DCNR/Bureau of State Parks	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained) and social trails (non-planned/non-maintained)	Samuel Lewis, Susquehannock
Lancaster Solid Waste Management Authority	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained)	Chestnut Grove Natural Area Northwest Lancaster County River Trail Turkey Hill Trail
Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained)	Mason-Dixon Trail
Lancaster County Parks and Rec	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained) and social trails (non-planned/non-maintained)	Chickies Rock County Park (both east and west of Route 441)
Lancaster Hiking Club	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained)	Conestoga Trail
PA Game Commission	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained)	SGL 288 Conestoga Trail, SGL 83 and 181 Mason-Dixon Trail
York County Department of Parks and Recreation	yes, approved trails (planned/maintained)	Highpoint Scenic Vista, Native Lands and Apollo County Park

WHAT TRAIL USE DO YOU MANAGE OR ALLOW?

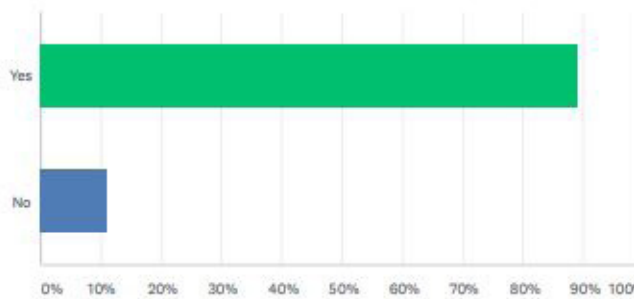
Answered: 8 respondents

TRAIL USE	% OF RESPONDENTS
Hiking only	62%
Horseback riding only	25%
Mountain Biking only	0%
ATV	0%
Multimodal/Shared-use	25%
Uses Allowed on Shared Use Trails	<p>DCNR/Bureau of State Parks: Hiking permitted on all trails, Equestrian and Cross country Skiing limited to specific trails. No mountain biking trails. ATV's prohibited.</p> <p>Lancaster Conservancy: No blanket regulations prohibiting horseback or mountain biking but we do not actively promote such use. Posts at specific individual trails to prohibit unsustainable use.</p> <p>Lancaster County Parks and Rec: Hiking, biking, rollerblading</p> <p>PA Game Commission: Most are hiking only. Some designated routes in the state allow horses and bike.</p> <p>York County Parks and Rec: Hiking, mt biking, and horseback riding</p>

INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES

10. ARE THESE TRAILS MAPPED?

Answered: 9 respondents

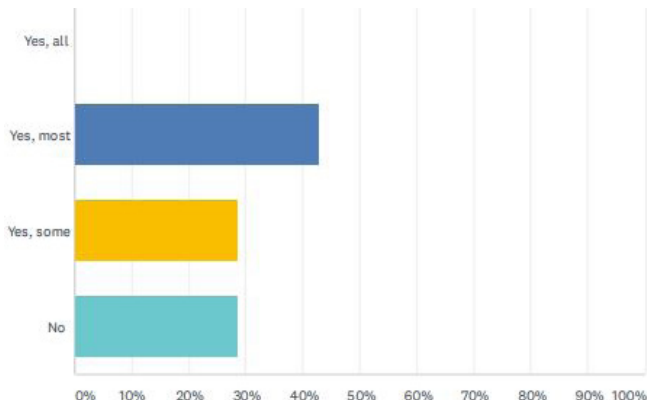


WHICH TRAILS ARE MAPPED?

- **Lancaster Conservancy:** All sanctioned trails on Conservancy properties
- Conestoga Trail
- **DCNR/Bureau of State Parks:** All approved trails
- **Lancaster Country Solid Waste Management Authority:** Chestnut Grove Natural Area Northwest Lancaster County River Trail Turkey Hill Trail
- **Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation:** All of the County-park approved trails are mapped. Social trails are not mapped.

12. DO THE LANDS THAT YOU MANAGE HAVE ADEQUATE VISITOR AMENITIES?

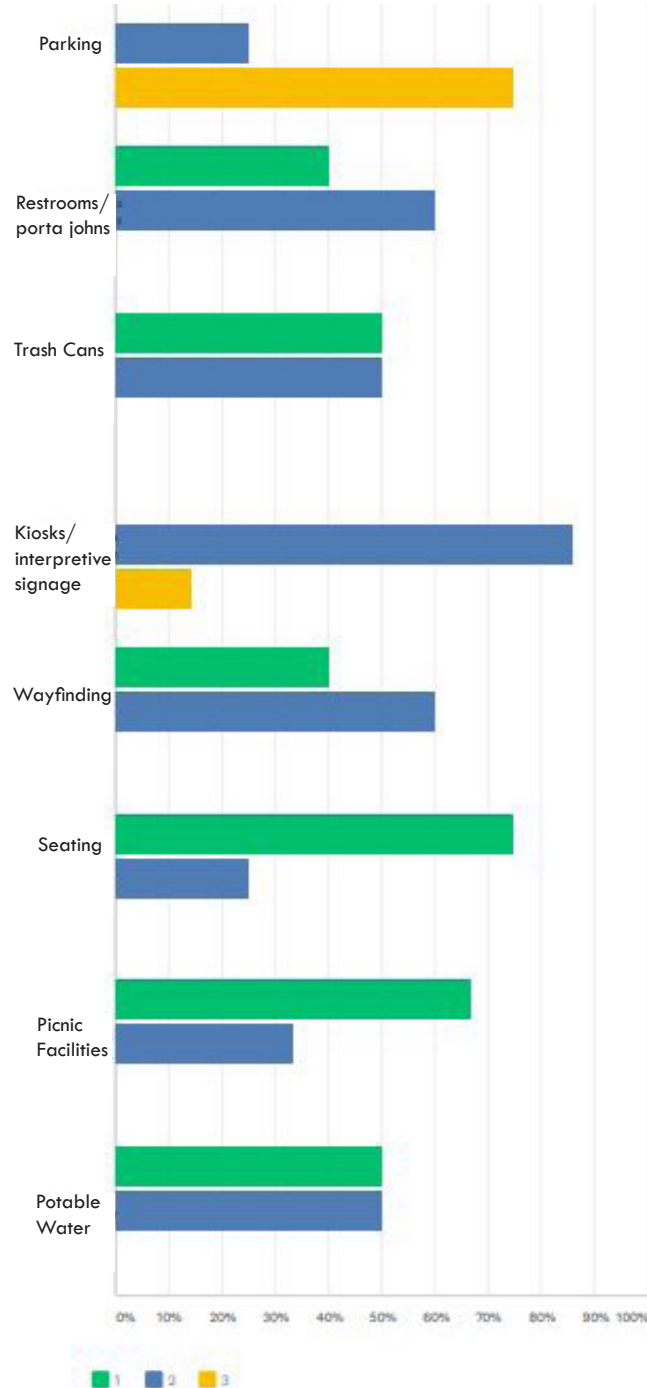
Answered: 7 respondents



11. WHAT AMENITIES DOES YOUR AGENCY PRIORITIZE?

WRITE '3' FOR HIGH-PRIORITY, '2' FOR MED-PRIORITY, '1' FOR LOW PRIORITY, OR '0' FOR NO PRIORITY.

Answered: 8 respondents



REGIONAL TRAILS IN THE SRCL

- Conestoga Trail
- Mason-Dixon Trail
- Enola Low Grade Trail
- Northwest River Trail

INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES

WHAT AMENITIES DOES YOUR AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION PROVIDE?

- **Lancaster Conservancy:** Parking, Interpretive signage, and wayfinding are highest priority for preserves that we manage for passive recreation. Otherwise, preserves managed primarily for habitat have no amenities. Not all passive rec preserves have adequate amenities (based upon Conservancy priorities) currently but the Conservancy is committed to make such improvements when it can.
- **DCNR/Bureau of State Parks:** Parking, bathrooms, trash collection, interpretive signage, wayfinding signage, seating, picnicking, potable water and overnight amenities are provided in appropriate areas.
- **Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation:** Parking, Trash cans - Day use areas have adequate trash cans. All other locations are carry-in, carry-out. Port-a-pots - Units are provided to support the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail. The number of units is adjusted to meet demand. Seating and picnic tables - Supply meets demand. Additional picnic tables can be provided if demand increases.
- **PA Game Commission:** Most usage on State Game Lands is passive so parking and signage is adequate.
- **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.:** Depends on land owner.

WHAT AMENITIES DO YOU NEED?

- **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.:**
We need facilities for backpackers (lean-toos or tent sites).
- **DCNR/Bureau of State Parks:**
Amenity upgrades underway at various locations.
- **York County Department of Parks and Rec:** Apollo County park - no restrooms Native Lands - better parking - bulletin boards and trail system.

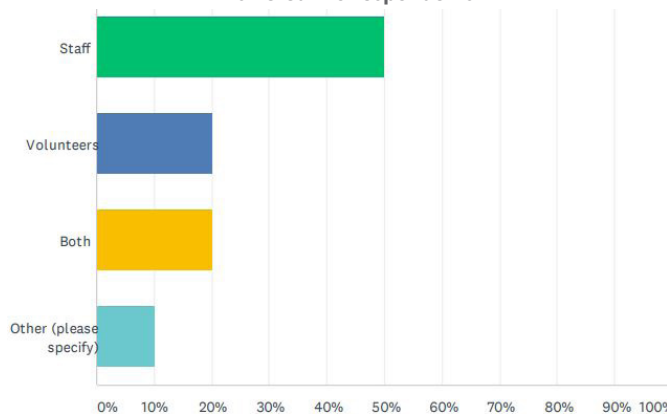
VOLUNTEERS AND COLLABORATION

100% (8/8 RESPONDENTS) HAVE A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH OTHER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS. THEY INCLUDE:

- **Lancaster Conservancy:** Commission Cooperative Agreement for public hunting, enforcement, funding/technical assistance for habitat and access improvements.
- **PA DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks:** Management Agreement w/Lancaster Conservancy RE: Pinnacle
- **Lancaster County Department of Parks and Rec:** South-Central Pennsylvania Climbers - To provide assistance with management and maintenance of climbing trails on Chickies Rock. Northwest Lancaster County River Trail Advisory Council - To provide consistent management practices and policies along the Trail as it runs through various municipalities each with jurisdiction over their portion of the trail.
- **PA Game Commission:** Our public access program has 2.2 million acres of enrolled properties. Specifically in the SRCL area, Lancaster Conservancy and local farms constitute the majority of the cooperators. Army Corp of Engineers.
- **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.:** No written agreements except with the power companies.
- **York County Department of Parks and Recreation:** Klines Run Park allows park visitors to access Native Lands through their property The Zimmerman House allows parking and park access to Native Lands.

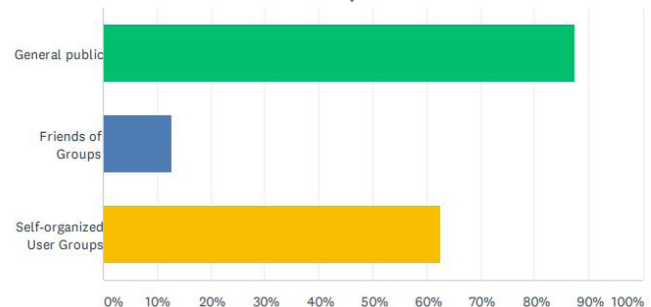
13. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ON YOUR AGENCY/ORGANIZATION'S LANDS?

Answered: 10 respondents



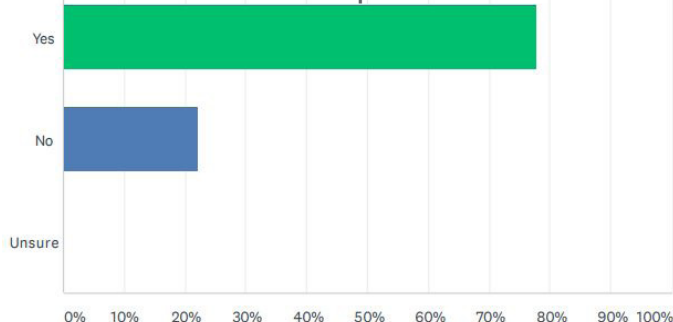
14. WHAT KINDS OF VOLUNTEERS DO YOU ENGAGE?

Answered: 8 respondents



15. DO YOU HAVE A NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST YOUR MANAGEMENT GOALS?

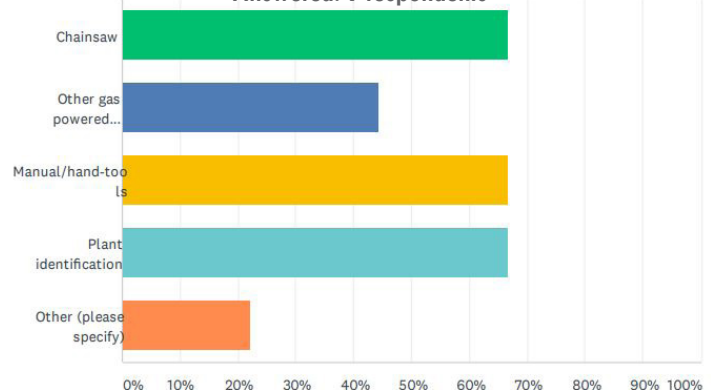
Answered: 9 respondents



16. WHAT TRAININGS DO YOUR VOLUNTEERS NEED TO ASSIST YOUR MANAGEMENT GOALS?

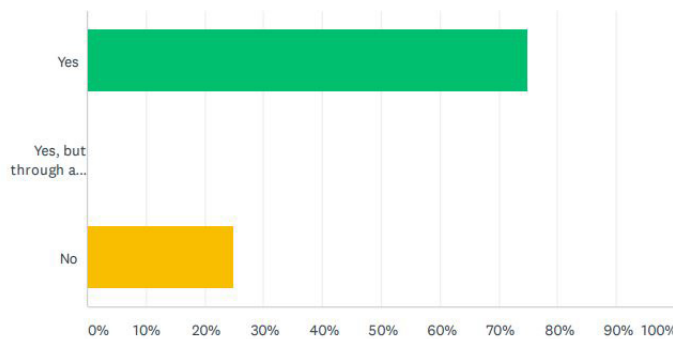
Check all that apply

Answered: 9 respondents



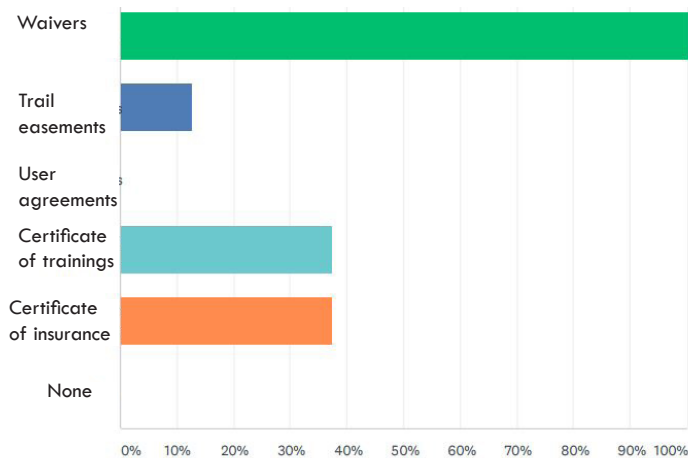
17. DOES YOUR AGENCY PROVIDE VOLUNTEERS WITH TRAINING?

Answered: 8 respondents



18. WHAT REQUIREMENTS DO YOU HAVE OF VOLUNTEERS OR VOLUNTEER GROUPS?

Answered: 8 respondents



WHICH AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS DO YOU CURRENTLY PARTNER WITH ON MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES, IF ANY?

- **Lancaster Conservancy:** PA Game Commission, Donegal Trout Unlimited, USDA, FSA, Mason-Dixon Trail Association, municipalities
- **DCNR/ Bureau of State Parks:** Bureau of Forestry, PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Game Commission, where appropriate
- **Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority:** Conoy Township Lancaster, County Conservancy
- **Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation:** South Central Pennsylvania Climbers, Lancaster Soaring Society, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Susquehanna Regional Police Dept.
- **Pennsylvania Game Commission:** Ruffed Grouse Society, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, National Wild Turkey Federation, DCNR, Fort Indiantown Gap, Middle Creek Volunteers, and various qualified individuals for prescribed fire.
- **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc:** York Hiking Club, Chester County Hiking Club, Wilmington Trail Club, Susquehanna National Heritage, York County Parks, Susquehannock State Park, Gifford Pinchott State Park, PA DCNR, MD DNR, Brookfield, Exelon
- **DNCR/Bureau of Forestry:** Many including PGC, corporations, trail organizations, plant conservation groups, regional conservancies
- **York County Department of Parks and Recreation:** Zimmerman House

LAND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES RELATED TO LAND MANAGEMENT THAT YOUR AGENCY FACES?

- Overall staffing needs, lack of staff to keep up with management needs (such as trail maintenance).
- Lack of enforcement ability for rules and regulations.
- Management of access and ecological health as public use and public impact grows.
- The results of the public demand we're seeing for recreation (i.e. government resources are decreasing).
- Spread of invasive species.
- Lack of holistic management over boundary lines.
- Insufficient funding for on-going routine maintenance and improvements projects.
- Lack of regional planning for conservation and recreation.
- Lack of visitor amenities.
- Vandalism, litter and dumping, unauthorized motor vehicle use.
- Creation of non-sanctioned trails.
- Safety compliance at the Chickies Rock Main Overlook.
- Managing conflicting user demands.
- Way-finding to direct visitors to specific features on a site.
- Stewardship.
- Lack of time and funding.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO LAND MANAGEMENT THAT YOUR AGENCY FACES?

- Acquiring high ranking parcels that build out a preserved landscape and/or create access to the preserved landscape.
- Holistically managing interior forest and sub-watersheds. Increasing carrying-capacity of the landscape.
- Improving ecosystem health. Habitat restoration.
- Mitigating poor water and poor air quality.
- Developing a regional network of trails serving a wide array of visitor needs (i.e. mobility) and wants (i.e. horseback, bike, hiking).
- Large population and many interested people. Strong volunteer base.
- Protecting viewsheds.
- A coordinated approach to maintenance, management and access to public lands.
- Efficient resource allocation: DCNR is moving toward a greater emphasis on natural and historical resource management, so allocation of staff and resources may increase in those areas in the coming decades.
- Improving way finding, increasing parking for the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail, coordinating with Marietta Borough on improvement to the trail in the Furnace Road Day Use Area.
- Currently federal PR funds are steady which enables us to fund larger projects on State Game Lands.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SRCL TO YOUR ORGANIZATION AND/OR LAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES?

- SRCL provides an identity (i.e. place making), adds value to quality of life for residents, and provides advocacy and funding for conservation.
- SRCL provides a framework for an array of partners to collaborate within and provides an increased level of priority. Efforts within the SRCL have a regional impact (i.e. Chesapeake Bay).
- The SRCL offers an opportunity to work more cooperatively and in conjunction with other land managers in the landscape.
- An opportunity to create partnerships that enhance and strengthen grant applications from each agency within the partnership.
- LCC is the largest public land holder in the CL region. They manage land to protect landscapes and provide access to the public for limited passive recreation activities. Their preserves are not public parks and are managed differently than a state park or a local park. Their assistance from other state agencies such as PA Game Commission is greatly appreciated.
- Utilization of a united voice to promote habitat management activities and to identify needs in the SRCL area.
- We need more of the lands along the Susquehanna preserved.

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO MANAGE NATURAL LANDS WITHIN THE SRCL COLLABORATIVELY?

- Extremely. COVID19 has shown us, unequivocally, that people want to be in the land along the Susquehanna River. It has also shown us that currently there is not enough public lands and access to public lands for increased visitation. We know that conservation is best practiced across scale with large tracts of natural lands serving the greatest ecological good. But improvements are typically best made on a smaller, site specific scale. Managing collaboratively is most efficient and allows partners to play to their strengths.
- Extremely important, especially given that there is such a patchwork of properties and given that the terrain makes access difficult. Working cooperatively enables every partner to share access, resources, and knowledge.
- Extremely Important.
- I think it is important to recognize that the agencies within the SRCL have varying priorities for management of their lands. To expect that all of the agencies will unify those priorities is probably unrealistic. However there is value if the SRCL can establish even limited collaborative management goals that do not conflict with individual agency priorities.
- Very important.
- The more collaboration the better the results.
- Hope to help prioritize which lands to preserve.

WOULD YOU SUPPORT/PARTICIPATE IN A COALITION OF LAND MANAGERS WITHIN THE SRCL?

- 9/12 respondents said yes (3 did not answer this question).

HOW DOES YOUR AGENCY CONSIDER THE SRCL IN YOUR PLANNING, AND HOW DOES THE SRCL RELATE TO OR SUPPORT THE MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS OF YOUR AGENCY?

- **Lancaster County Parks and Rec:** To date, the SRCL has not play a large role as it pertains to planning and goals for Chickies Rock County Park. We are hoping that participation in this process will begin to change that.
- **DCNR/Bureau of Forestry:** SRCL is one of many initiatives in Southeast PA that overlaps with our mission.
- **Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy:** We are beginning to prioritize our botanical update work according to the 'hotspot' analysis I mentioned above. We consider it important that the information we collect becomes useful to those doing on-the-ground conservation work.
- **PA DCNR, Bureau of State Parks:** Planning on a regional scale for us has been an important vision for many years, but implementing that vision has been difficult for a number of reasons. We are hopeful that the current SRCL planning process will help institutionalize a regional perspective for us with goals and strategies that become infused in the plans for individual state park properties in the landscape.
- **York County Planning Commission:** The Susquehanna Riverlands forms the entire eastern boundary of our county. Protection of the corridor is restorative to our waterways and to the river and benefits the diversity of natural resources that exist in the area. As a partner in the SRCL, the YCPC appreciates and contributes to the work of agencies, organizations and land managers with similar land protection goals and objectives. We can provide technical expertise, including mapping and other data. Our work with the SRCL also encourages and fosters thoughtful and effective planning at all levels.
- **Lancaster County Planning Commission:** The Susquehanna Riverlands is special place, and consistent with our mission, our role is to ensure that it remains a special place in the future. The Planning Commission views the Riverlands as a single landscape. We want to plan and implement holistically as a region and create a culture that instinctively thinks outside individual municipal boundaries when making land use and planning decisions about the future. As mentioned earlier, the Riverlands is also a playground for outdoor recreation as well as an area of great ecological and cultural significance. These must be carefully balanced and areas need to be protected, preserved and stewarded in a way that adds to our quality of life and the quality of the environment today and tomorrow.
- **PA DCNR, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation:** It is challenging from my position to answer this question because my Bureau does not manage land. Bureau of State Parks would provide better insight into this question. In our Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, I am the internal lead and facilitate some work tasks and or administrative tasks pertaining to the mission, vision and goals of DCNR through our grant program. Bureau of Recreation and Conservation works with local, county and state agencies; non-profit organizations, the Susquehanna Heritage areas, and recreation based organizations in developing or facilitating recreation and conservation based projects in the CL region. We assist LCC with their funding needs through our technical assistance in our land acquisition section and from me in the South Central Regional office.
- **PA Game Commission:** Currently, our planning in this area has been based focused on the State Game Lands and land use types in relative close proximity that influence the usage of various species of wildlife.
- **Lancaster Conservancy:** SRCL is an element of our strategic plan. The river valley is an area that we know well. When no other agency was willing to acquire properties in-fee in York County, the Conservancy choose to expand into York County to do so along the river corridor. Properties within the SRCL tend rank high for our land protection efforts. Since we own so much in the corridor already, adding adjacent acreage is a priority.
- **National Park Service:** The SRCL assists in telling the stories of the trail by creating places for visitors to engage with the trail.
- **Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.:** We are hoping that there can be coordination to preserve more land along the river for public.