

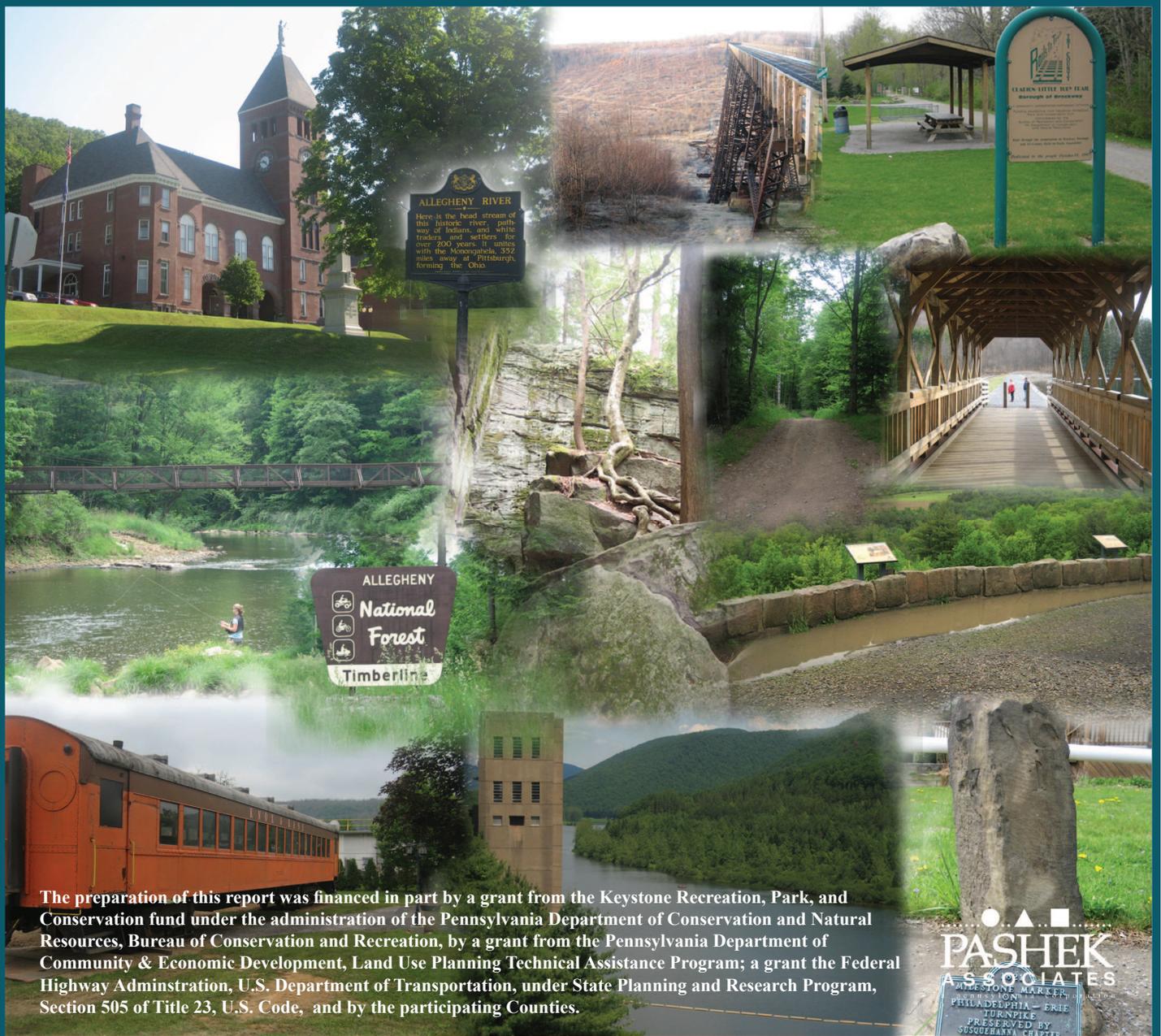
The

# North Central PENNSYLVANIA



June 1, 2010

Greenways Plan



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SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER

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# North Central PENNSYLVANIA



## *Greenways Plan*

*Including:*

*Cameron County  
Clearfield County  
Elk County  
Jefferson County  
McKean County  
Potter County*

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# Table of Contents

CHAPTER ONE - WHERE ARE WE NOW? .....	1-1	Goals for Greenways in North Central Pennsylvania .....	2-4
Introduction.....	1-3	The Structure of the Network .....	2-5
What is a Greenway? .....	1-9	Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs.....	2-7
How is a Greenway Plan Developed?....	1-12	Defining Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs.....	2-7
A Three Step Process.....	1-12	Trail Town, Major Hub, and Hub Criteria.....	2-8
Public Participation .....	1-12	Trail Town Prioritization .....	2-11
Purpose of the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan .....	1-13	Building the Network – Recreation and Transportation Corridors..	2-14
A Decision-Making Tool .....	1-13	Existing Trails .....	2-14
Existing Planning Efforts .....	1-15	Identifying Potential Recreation and Transportation Corridors .....	2-21
Benefits of Greenways for North Central Pennsylvania .....	1-19	The Process .....	2-22
Economic Benefits of Greenways ...	1-20	The Results.....	2-23
Recreation Benefits.....	1-23	Regional Ranking and Prioritization.....	2-23
Transportation Benefits .....	1-23	Proposed Vital Priority Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors.....	2-29
Health and Wellness Benefits .....	1-24	Proposed Exceptional Priority Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors .....	2-36
Ecological Benefits.....	1-27	Proposed Significant Priority Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors .....	2-44
Preserving North Central Pennsylvania's Defining Characteristics .....	1-28	Proposed High Priority Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors.....	2-50
Expanding the Economy .....	1-30	Water Trails.....	2-53
Tourism/Eco-Tourism.....	1-30	Existing Water Trails .....	2-53
Hunting & Fishing.....	1-30	Economics of Water Trails .....	2-53
Boating .....	1-31	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Water Trail Program ..	2-54
Wildlife Viewing .....	1-31	Water Trail Prioritization Criteria....	2-55
Educational Benefits.....	1-32	Proposed Water Trails.....	2-57
Conserving Priority Habitats .....	1-33	Building the Network – Natural Systems Corridors.....	2-63
Sound Land Use and Sustainable Growth.....	1-33		
Regional Context .....	1-35		
North Central Region .....	1-35		
CHAPTER TWO - WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?.....	2-1		
A Vision for Greenways of North Central Pennsylvania .....	2-3		

# Table of Contents

continued

The Building Blocks .....	2-63	Water Quality.....	3-18
Hydrologic Resources .....	2-64	Pedestrian and Bicycle	
Natural Infrastructure .....	2-73	Improvements.....	3-23
Ecological Infrastructure .....	2-79	PA Game Commission's Bicycle,	
		Equestrian & Snowmobile	
Defining the Natural Systems		Designated Routes.....	3-27
Greenway Corridors.....	2-85	Natural Resource Extraction .....	3-31
Natural Systems Greenway		Wind Energy.....	3-37
Corridor Criteria .....	2-86	Off-Highway Vehicle	
		Recommendations and	
The Process .....	2-87	Implementation Strategies.....	3-39
Regional Rankings and		Trail Town Opportunities .....	3-47
Prioritization.....	2-91	Land Trail Implementation Strategies.	3-49
		Water Trail Implementation Strategies.	3-51
The Results.....	2-99		
Vital Priority Natural Systems		Establishing Regional Priorities.....	3-53
Greenway Corridors .....	2-99	Knox Kane Corridor .....	3-54
Proposed Exceptional Priority		West Creek Trail Corridor .....	3-56
Natural Systems Greenway		Smethport to Duke Center.....	3-57
Corridors.....	2-102	Redbank Creek and Brookville to	
Proposed Significant Priority		Brockway Corridors .....	3-59
Natural Systems Greenway		Sinnemahoning Creeks and	
Corridors.....	2-113	Branches / Elk Country Corridor....	3-60
Proposed High Priority Natural		Indiana, Southern Clearfield,	
Systems Greenway Corridors.....	2-123	Cambria, and Blair Counties	
		Corridor .....	3-62
County Rankings and Prioritizations ...	2-129	West Branch Susquehanna Corridor.	3-63
		Triple Divide / Genesee River	
CHAPTER THREE - HOW DO WE		Wilds Corridor.....	3-64
GET THERE?.....	3-1		
		Potential County	
Regional Issues .....	3-3	Demonstration Projects.....	3-66
Regional Priorities .....	3-3	Cameron County Greenways	
		Recommendations and	
Regional Issues .....	3-5	Implementation Strategies .....	3-67
Management Structure .....	3-5	Clearfield County Greenways	
Discussion on Land Use.....	3-13	Recommendations and	
Stormwater Management and		Implementation Strategies.....	3-89

# Table of Contents

continued

Elk County Priorities and Implementation Strategies.....	3-111
Jefferson County Priorities and Implementation Strategies.....	3-133
McKean County Priorities and Implementation Strategies.....	3-151
Potter County Priorities and Implementation Strategies.....	3-179
Potential Regional Partners.....	3-200
Potential Funding Sources .....	3-203



## APPENDICES

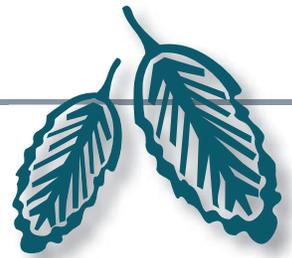
- Appendix One: Inventory - Recreation & Transportation Opportunities Maps
- Appendix Two: Inventory - Natural Infrastructure Maps
- Appendix Three: Inventory - Ecological Infrastructure Maps & Tables
- Appendix Four: Inventory - Hydrological Infrastructure Maps
- Appendix Five: Inventory - Cultural and Historic Resources Maps
- Appendix Six: Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors Maps - by County
- Appendix Seven: Recommendations - Proposed Natural System Greenway Corridors Maps - by County
- Appendix Eight: Sample Greenway Coordinatory Position Descriptions

*Appendices are on file at the offices of the North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission*

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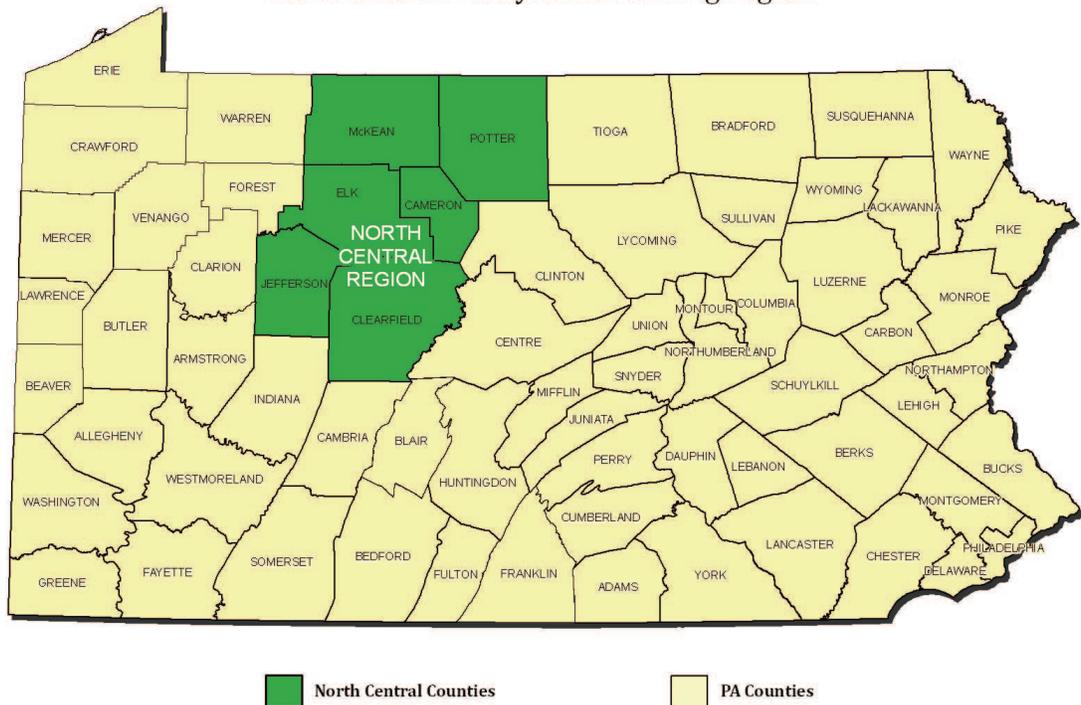


## INTRODUCTION

The North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan, undertaken by the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, is a multi-county planning effort for the North Central Commission's six counties:

- Cameron County
- Clearfield County
- Elk County
- Jefferson County
- McKean County
- Potter County

North Central Pennsylvania Planning Region



The North Central Pennsylvania greenways planning process and recommendations are documented in this plan. In addition to this regional approach, County specific components are also addressed in this plan as well.

This document is non-regulatory. It serves as a reference and guide for the region, and its counties, municipalities, conservation organizations, trail organizations, and other agencies who, desire to enhance the quality of life in the North Central region by connecting our communities, and conserving and promoting our natural resources for public benefit. Recommendations identified within this plan are not enforceable by any agency. Implementation of this plan is the responsibility of various agencies with the

North Central region and depends upon cooperation and collaboration among many different organizations. In this Chapter we will:

- Introduce the concept of greenways and present the benefits of establishing a greenway network
- Identify the existing planning efforts reviewed and incorporated into this process
- Establish the vision and goals for creating a greenways network in North Central Pennsylvania.

North Central Pennsylvania is rich in recreation opportunities and natural resources. Many of these resources are unique and special to the region and beyond. Highlights of the region include:

- *Allegheny National Forest:* The Allegheny National Forest (ANF) is the only National Forest in Pennsylvania. The ANF covers more than 513,000 acres in McKean, Warren, Elk and Forest Counties. Within the ANF, there are over 1,000 miles of hiking, biking, ATV riding, and horseback riding trails. Swimming, boating, and fishing opportunities also exist in the Allegheny and Clarion Rivers as well as the Allegheny Reservoir.
- *Allegheny Reservoir:* The Allegheny Reservoir is over twenty-four miles in length at normal pool elevation and covers more than twenty one thousand acres at its maximum capacity. Additionally, the Allegheny National Forest, in Pennsylvania, and Allegany State Park, in New York, completely surround the reservoir with undeveloped forest land.
- *Allegheny River:* The Allegheny River totals approximately three hundred and twenty-five miles in length from its headwaters in central Potter County to the point in Pittsburgh where it joins with the Monongahela to form the Ohio River. The portion of the river in North Central region is the Upper Allegheny section above the Allegheny Reservoir. Found in McKean and Potter Counties, this section travels into New York winding through Allegany State Park before coming back into Pennsylvania at the reservoir.

Additionally, more than 86 miles of the Allegheny River has been designated as a Wild and Scenic River.

- *Wild and Scenic Clarion River:* Approximately 52 miles of the Clarion River has been designated as a Wild and Scenic River.
- *Lumber Heritage Region:* The fifteen-county Lumber Heritage region strives to promote the history and heritage of the lumber industry and its importance to Pennsylvania's development. The region boasts a wide variety of natural, cultural, and historic resources. While celebrating the past, this grassroots effort works to build the region's economy and quality of life through education, conservation, and tourism promotion. All six counties of North Central region are located within the Lumber Heritage region.



- *Pennsylvania Wilds*: The PA Wilds is comprised of twelve counties including all six counties of the North Central region. Teeming with wildlife and offering unlimited recreation opportunities from hiking and biking to hunting and fishing, the PA Wilds encompasses:
  - More than 1.6 million acres of state forest and game lands
  - Twenty-seven state parks
  - The 500,000-acre Allegheny National Forest
  - Eight wild areas and 24 natural areas that cover about 150,000 acres
  - The largest elk herd in the Northeast United States
  - Hundreds of miles of backpacking trails, bike paths, and trout fishing streams
  - The darkest skies in the eastern United States at Cherry Springs State Park



The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resource's Bureau of State Parks provides 16 state parks within the North Central Pennsylvania region, they include:

- 1) *Bucktail State Park Natural Area*: This natural area provides a beautiful 75-mile scenic tour along State Route 120 from Emporium, Cameron County, through Renovo, to Lock Haven, Clinton County. It stretches through a valley of steep mountains that form forested walls along the West Branch of the Susquehanna River and Sinnemahoning Creek.
- 2) *Kinzua Bridge State Park*: This 329-acre State Park in McKean County features the remnants of the 2,053-foot railroad bridge (viaduct) that was a National Engineering Landmark. A tornado knocked down the viaduct on July 21, 2003.
- 3) *Sinnemahoning State Park*: Located in Cameron County, along First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, this park has pleasing views of the surrounding mountains and deep valleys. An abundance of wildlife, including nesting bald eagles and elk, can be found in its 1,910-acre expanse.
- 4) *Sizerville State Park*: This 386-acre state park, located in Potter County, is almost completely surrounded by Elk State Forest and is near the largest blocks of state forest in the state. Sizerville has many interesting recreational and natural prospects and is a good base to explore the nearby public lands.
- 5) *Parker Dam State Park*: Located in the northern portion of the Clearfield County, this 968-acre area is a rustic and remote park situated in the heart of Moshannon State Forest and is almost entirely wooded.
- 6) *S.B. Elliott State Park*: This 318-acre state park is also located in Clearfield County within the Moshannon State Forest. This entirely wooded park offers areas of forest and swamp meadows as well as mature second growth mixed hardwood and oak timber.



Sizerville State Park, Potter County

- 7) *Bendigo State Park*: This small 100-acre park is located in north central Elk County within a valley surrounded by picturesque hills. The East Branch of the Clarion River flows through the park.
- 8) *Elk State Park*: This 3,192-acre state park is also located in north central Elk County, within the rugged mountains of northern Pennsylvania. This park features the 1,160-acre East Branch Lake and dam.



*Bendigo State Park, Elk County*

- 9) *Clear Creek State Park*: This state park encompasses 1,676 acres in the northern part of Jefferson County. The park occupies a scenic portion of the Clear Creek Valley from PA 949 to the Clarion River.
- 10) *Cook Forest State Park*: This 8,500-acre park lies in Clarion, Forest, and Jefferson Counties. Once called the “Black Forest,” the area is famous for its stands of old growth forest.

- 11) *Denton Hill State Park*: Denton Hill is found in the snow belt of northern Pennsylvania, in Potter County, and offers great downhill skiing opportunities. Although Denton Hill is an official state park, the Bureau leases operations out to a concessionaire, Ski Denton.



*Denton Hill State Park, Potter County*

- 12) *Cherry Springs State Park*: This state park is a remote 48-acre park, located in Potter County, that is noted as appearing “as wild today as it was two centuries ago.” Its secluded location allows for dark night skies which makes it a haven for astronomers.
- 13) *Lyman Run State Park*: This 595-acre state park is located in Potter County and is dominated by maples and cherries. A mixed northern hardwood forest surrounds the 45-acre Lyman Run Lake, making it a most scenic setting.
- 14) *Ole Bull State Park*: Ole Bull consists of 132 acres along Potter County's Kettle Creek Valley. This area is referred to as the Black Forest because of its once dense tree cover, mountainous terrain, and wilderness habitat.
- 15) *Patterson State Park*: Located in an isolated area of Potter County, Patterson State Park has two rustic picnic pavilions for visitors to enjoy a family get-together. Patterson is a trailhead for the Susquehannock Trail, a favorite of backpackers.
- 16) *Prouty Place State Park*: This five-acre remote park located in Potter County offers access to hunting, fishing, and hiking within the surrounding Susquehannock State Forest.

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resource's Bureau of Forestry manages 6 State Forests within the North Central Pennsylvania region, they include:

- *Elk State Forest:* Located principally in Elk and Cameron Counties, with portions in Clearfield, McKean, and Potter Counties, Elk State Forest is comprised of approximately 200,000 acres, is open to primitive camping, licensed hunting and fishing, and general recreational activities.

The Bureau of Forestry manages several wild and natural areas within Elk State Forest, these include:

- 23,000 acres of the Quehanna Wild Area. This area became Pennsylvania's first large forest area (48,186 acres) devoted to the pursuit of peace and solitude. Once this area was an industrial research complex with restricted public access, now public use is encouraged, while buildings, new public roads, mineral development and rights-of-way are restricted.
- Areas of unique values that are maintained in a "natural condition," without the usual human intervention, are designated as Natural Areas. The Natural areas found on the Elk State Forest are:
  - Johnson Run Natural Area - 216 acres with old growth hemlock-hardwood
  - Lower Jerry Run Natural Area - 892 acres with old growth pine-hemlock
  - Pine Tree Trail Natural Area - 276 acres with old field growth white pine
  - Bucktail State Park Natural Area - 16,433 acres; a scenic drive. The Bucktail State Park Natural Area is a 75-mile scenic drive from Emporium to Lock Haven that involves 16,433 acres in the Elk and Sproul State Forests.
  - Wykoff Run Natural Area - 1,215 acres of hydric hemlock and white birch. The Lower Jerry and Wykoff Natural Areas are further designated as special protection areas for all amphibians and reptiles.
- *Moshannon State Forest:* The forest is located primarily in Clearfield, Elk, and Centre Counties, with small parts of the forest also in Cameron and Clinton Counties, and occupies approximately 150,000 acres in the North Central region. Moshannon State Forest boasts an extensive 244-mile hiking trail system. It's largest is the Quehanna Trail, a designated state forest trail, traversing Moshannon from Parker Dam to Sinnemahoning in the Elk State Forest.
- *Susquehannock State Forest:* The 265,000-acre Susquehannock State Forest is located primarily in Potter County, with small areas in McKean and Clinton Counties. The mountainous terrain contains some of the best recreational opportunities in the state, regardless of weather you are looking to passively enjoy a drive to look over the many scenic vistas and observe the wildlife or are pursuing more active opportunities such as hiking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, biking, ATV riding, hunting, fishing and a snowmobiling. Susquehannock offers both primitive camping and motorized camping. All trails are open to non-motorized users unless posted



*Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail, Elk County*

closed. An 85-mile loop known as the Susquehannock Trail System is designated for hikers and cross-country skiers. A 43-mile ATV trail is open during the summer months and over 200 miles of roads and trails are open for snowmobiles during the winter.

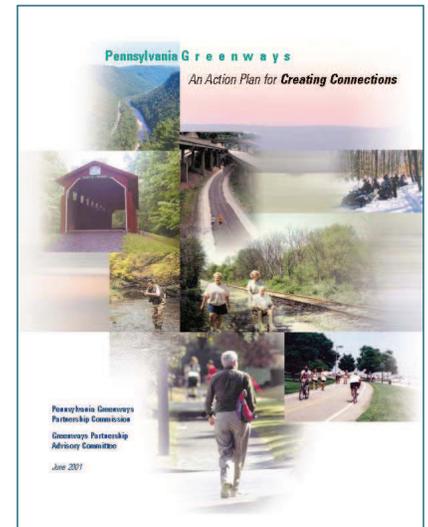
The Bureau of Forestry manages the Hammersley Wild Area in the Susquehannock State Forest. The Hammersley Wild Area is a 30,253 acre wild area in Potter and Clinton counties. It is the largest area without a road in Pennsylvania and the state's second largest wild area. The wild area is named for Hammersley Fork, a tributary of Kettle Creek, which flows through the area. This includes 10.78 miles of the Susquehannock Trail System.

- *Clear Creek, Sproul, and Tiadahton State Forests:* These forests, primarily located outside the North Central region, occupy a combined acreage of 15,000 in the North Central region.

By planning to conserve and enhance natural system greenway corridors and build upon the existing corridors, and, establish new recreation and transportation greenway corridors, the counties within the North Central region are taking measures that will provide benefits for current and future generations of north central Pennsylvania residents from which to prosper and enjoy.

## WHAT IS A GREENWAY?

The term “Greenway” was first coined in the 19th century, and since that time greenways have been defined in many ways. Some people think of greenways as primarily recreational, namely trails for hiking, jogging, biking, or canoeing/kayaking (often called water trails or “blueways”). For them, greenways are places that offer opportunities to experience the outdoors. For others, the purpose of greenways is primarily for conservation of undeveloped land containing important natural resources like forests, wetlands, and stream banks, along with the plants and animals that live there. Still others see greenways in aesthetic terms, preserving the pastoral countryside setting in rural areas and protecting outstanding natural features, such as stream valleys, forested ridges, and sensitive habitats.



The movement to establish greenways was given a significant boost in 1987 when President Ronald Reagan's President's Commission on Americans Outdoors recommended that an interconnected greenways network be established throughout the nation.

Many states, including the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, accepted the task of promoting greenways. *Pennsylvania's Greenways – An Action Plan for Creating Connections* was published in 2001. This report established a strategy for creating a comprehensive, statewide greenway network by the year 2020. Governor Tom Ridge appointed the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to oversee the Commonwealth's greenways program. DCNR, in partnership with county and municipal officials, supports greenways planning and implementation through education, technical assistance, and grant-making programs.

Greenway concepts are embraced by the following all-encompassing definition, which is adapted from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Greenways Plan: ***Pennsylvania Greenways - An Action Plan for Creating Connections*** and is embraced by this Greenways Plan:

***A greenway is a corridor of open space, varying greatly in scale, and incorporating or linking diverse natural, cultural, and scenic resources. Some greenways are recreational corridors or scenic byways accommodating pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle traffic on both land and water; while others function almost exclusively for environmental protection and are not designed for human passage.***



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## *GREENWAYS FOR NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA*

Through the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways planning process, the project steering committee developed the following definition for greenways for Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter Counties:

### **Greenways of North Central Pennsylvania**

A greenway is a corridor of open space. Greenways vary greatly in scale, from narrow ribbons of green that run through rural, suburban, and urban areas to wider corridors that incorporate diverse natural, cultural and scenic features. They may follow old railways, canals, or ridge tops, or they may follow stream corridors, shorelines, or wetlands, and include water trails.

Some greenways are for recreation and transportation activities and may accommodate motorized and non-motorized uses on land and water. Other greenways conserve natural infrastructure for the benefit of community, economy, and environment; and may or may not be designed for human passage.

Greenways will not take away the rights of property owners, nor will they restrict development in the region. Instead, the greenway network will promote sustainable development, reduce development costs, and reduce the burden of providing public services on local, county, and state governments.



*View from Kinzua Valley Trail, McKean County*

## **HOW IS A GREENWAY PLAN DEVELOPED?**

For many, the term greenway evokes visions of recreational and outdoor pursuits. For others, the term greenway evokes concern over restrictions to development and the loss of property rights. Throughout the planning process, we have taken efforts to ease concerns; educate the public to confirm the truth; dispel myths; and build consensus by establishing defensible rationale for establishing a greenway network through the North Central Pennsylvania region.

### A THREE STEP PROCESS

The greenway planning process for the North Central Pennsylvania region utilized a three-step process that answers three questions:

***WHERE ARE WE NOW?*** - This is the inventory phase. In this phase, we gather information about the natural and cultural assets of the region that may form the building blocks of conservation or recreation corridors. For example, we obtain information about important habitat areas warranting protection, as well as abandoned rail corridors that could be converted to recreational trails.

***WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?*** - In this phase, we develop the “vision.” Specifically, the plan synthesizes the information gathered during the inventory phase into a proposed network of greenways and trails linking important destinations throughout the region.

***HOW DO WE GET THERE?*** - This step provides information about how the plan can be implemented. It includes concrete tools, such as a recommended management structure, prioritized recreation and transportation and natural system greenway corridors, and potential funding sources.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The process also involved public participation to solicit knowledge and expertise from local residents and officials - those who know Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter Counties best. Equally important the public process was also used to present and receive feedback on the analysis and development of recommendations contained within this study.

During this process, input is obtained through:

- Study Committee Meetings
- Public Meetings
- Key Person Interviews
- Field Views



*Clearfield County Public Meeting, April 29, 2009*

## ***PURPOSE OF THE NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GREENWAYS PLAN***

This plan examines various methods by which a greenway network can be achieved for North Central Pennsylvania. As the recommendations of this plan are implemented the proposed recommendations will take into account the desire to conserve the region's essential natural resources and, in turn, its unique character, while enhancing the quality of life for its residents. Further, implementation will create a network of connections between the diverse natural areas; various cultural, historic, and recreational resources; and local population centers. These connections will help to preserve natural resources and open spaces while providing valuable recreation, transportation, and economic development opportunities for the region.

## ***THE GREENWAY AND OPEN SPACE PLAN AS A DECISION-MAKING TOOL***

This greenway plan serves as a flexible tool for making decisions regarding land and water based recreation and transportation improvements as well as the conservation of natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources. By encompassing a variety of issues pertinent to these resources, the plan will lay the foundation for the continued success of open space conservation and increased quality of life in north central Pennsylvania. Specific policy details and greenway locations may be adjusted as needed throughout the planning process and during implementation.



*Jefferson County Courthouse*

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## EXISTING PLANNING EFFORTS

In order to understand the context in which this planning effort is taking place, the following past planning studies were reviewed as part of this planning process:

### *County Comprehensive Plans*

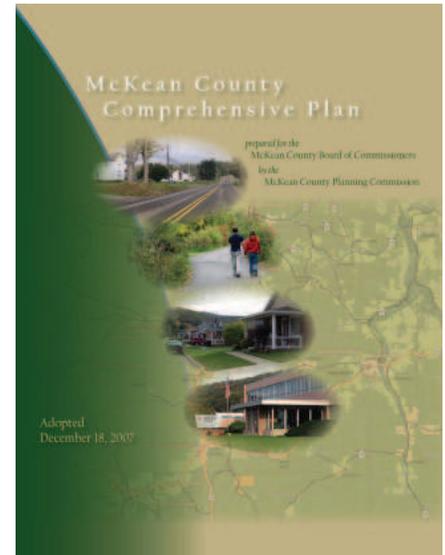
- Clearfield County (2006)
- Elk County (1999)
- Jefferson County (2005)
- McKean County (2007)
- Potter County (2005)

### *Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Planning Efforts*

- Tuna Valley COG (2001)
- Northwest Clearfield Region (ongoing)

### *Greenway Plans*

- Pennsylvania Statewide Greenway Plan (2001)



***Pennsylvania Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections*** identifies many needs and recommends complex actions that will enable the gradual implementation of a statewide greenways plan. This project fits into the Pennsylvania Greenways Plan, in which the needs to map county / municipal greenways, to build GIS base mapping on a regional scale, and to facilitate regional coordination and cooperation among municipalities were identified as building blocks toward a successful statewide greenways network.

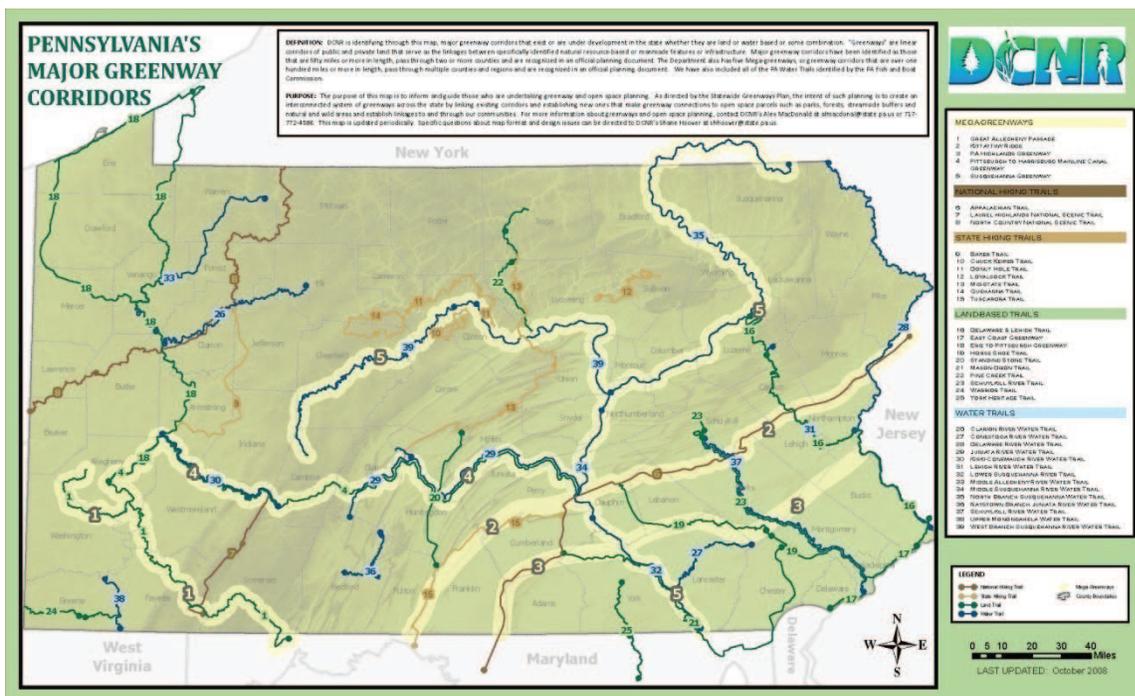
Other needs identified in detail by the Pennsylvania Greenways Plan include:

- More public education about greenways and their benefits;
- Greater effort to conserve land and protect ecological systems;
- Dedication of funding sources for long-term support of greenways and coordination of funding programs;
- A lead state agency for greenway initiatives; and
- State agencies' revision of their guidance documents, policies, and practices and to work cooperatively better to support greenways.

Using a “Bottom up” approach, only greenways recognized at the local or county level will be considered as a part of the statewide network. The goal of the state’s greenways program is to identify and encourage linkages between and among local and regional greenways, placing them in a wider context. Each county is encouraged to use greenways as a land use strategy and show existing and proposed greenways and open space in their plans. The information from each county would then be shared in a statewide Geographic Information System (GIS). Thus, the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan is building toward not only its own goals, but a greater statewide objective.

Another part of Pennsylvania’s greenway objectives, as established by DCNR, is the development of *Major Greenway Corridors*. These are regional greenways greater than 50 miles in length, passing through two or more counties, and are each recognized in at least one official planning document. Major greenways are among the top greenway priorities in the state and will serve as the backbone of the statewide greenways network. Each county’s greenway plan is required to discuss major greenway corridors.

The DCNR-listed Pennsylvania Major Greenway Corridors, which pass through the North Central region, include the North Country National Scenic Trail; the Susquehanna Greenway; the Quehanna Trail, Donut Hole Trail, and Baker Trail State Hiking Trails; and the Clarion River Water Trail.



In addition to the state-wide greenway plan, the following county plans were reviewed:

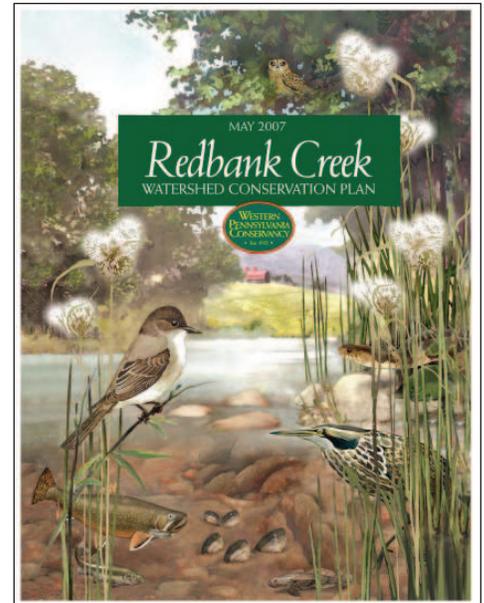
- Tuna Valley Greenway Plan (2001)
- Clarion River Greenway Plan (2005)
- Northwest Pennsylvania Greenways Plan (2009)
- Centre County Greenway Plan (2009)
- Indiana County Greenway Plan (2009)

*Trail Plans and Trail Feasibility Studies*

- Clarion/Little Toby Rail-with-Trail Feasibility Study (2005)
- Piney Branch Trail and Brookville to Brockway Rail to Trail Feasibility Study (2003)
- North Central PA ATV Study (2007)
- Developing Water Trails in PA (2008)

*Watershed Management Plans and Water Quality Studies*

- Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Conservation Plan (2009 - Draft)
- Redbank Creek Watershed Conservation Plan (2007)
- Clarion River Basin Assessment (1998-2001)
- Clarion River Basin Study (1997)
- Upper West Branch Susquehanna Conservation Plans (2001)
- Lower West Branch Susquehanna Conservation Plans (2003)
- Upper Mahoning Creek Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan (1997)
- Pine Creek Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan (2005)
- Chest Creek & Anderson Creek Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (2003)
- Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy (2005)
- Anderson Creek Assessment, Restoration, and Implementation Plan (2006)
- Hunts Run Cold Water Conservation Plan
- Lick Run Cold Water Conservation Plan
- Moshannon Creek Cold Water Conservation Plan
- Rogues Harbor Cold Water Conservation Plan

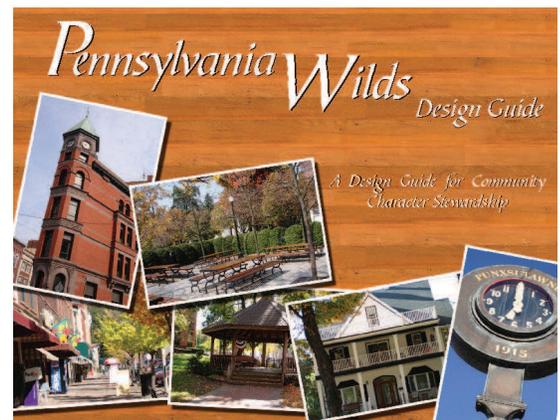


*Heritage Area Plans*

- A Recreation Plan for the State Parks and State Forests in the Pennsylvania Wilds (2006)
- Outdoor Recreation in the 21st Century: The Pennsylvania Wilds (2005)
- Lumber Heritage Region's Interpretive Plan (2005)
- Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania: Management Action Plan (2001)
- Plan for Elk Watching and Nature Tourism in North Central Pennsylvania (2002)
- PA Wilds Planning Study (2007)
- PA Wilds Design Guide (2008)
- PA Route 6 Heritage Corridor Management Action Plan (2004)

*Natural Heritage Inventory Plans*

- Clearfield County (2004)
- Elk County (2006)
- Jefferson County (2009)
- McKean County (2008)
- Potter County (2007)
- Cameron County (2009 - Draft data based on Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Inventory)

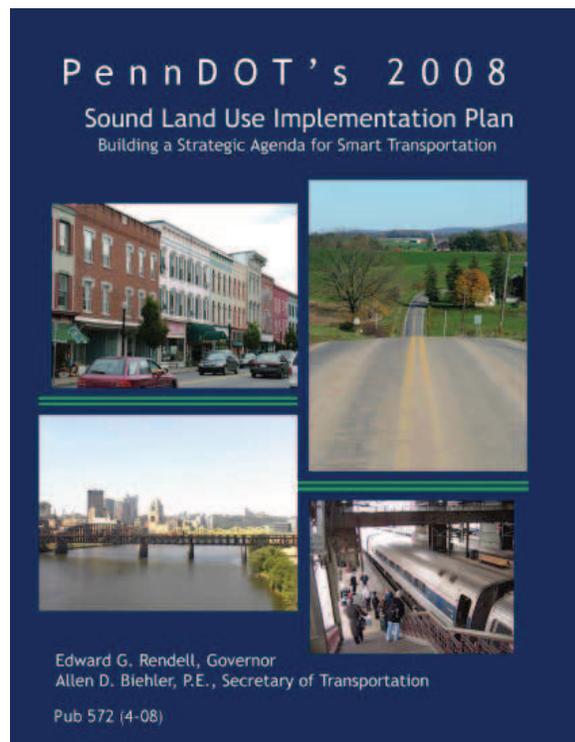


*Land Use and Planning Tools Plans*

- Clearfield County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (1995)
- Elk County Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan – Phase 1 (2008)
- Elk County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (2003)
- McKean County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (amended 1995)

*Other Plans*

- PennDOT Sound Land Use Implementation Plan (2008)
- Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (2008)
- Clarion River Recreation Assessment (2006)
- Blueprint for Action – Shaping a Sustainable Pennsylvania (2004)
- Bicycle Pennsylvania Routes
- Regional Conference on Transportation and Land Use for Economic Development (2005)
- Regional Action Strategies: Linking Land Use, Transportation, and Economic Development (2008)
- North Central Pennsylvania Long Range Transportation Plan (2007)
- North Central Pennsylvania Bike / Pedestrian Plan (2000)
- Rock Run ATV Park Visioning Study (2003)
- Cloe Lake Recreation Area Comprehensive Feasibility Study & Master Plan (2004)
- North Central Region Linking Land Use and Transportation for Economic Development (2009 - Draft)
- A Feasibility Study of the Potential for Environmental and Economic Improvement within the Clarion River Corridor and Adjoining Urban Areas of Ridgway, Pennsylvania (2008)



## **BENEFITS OF GREENWAYS FOR NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**

Wherever greenways are developed, they provide numerous and diverse benefits to local municipalities and their residents. This section of the plan focuses on those benefits that are especially applicable to greenways development in the North Central region.

### **Benefits of Greenways to the North Central Pennsylvania Region**

- Promotes restoration of land and water
- Encourages a network of non-motorized land and water transportation corridors to connect people to our resources
- Explores opportunities to expand motorized off highway vehicle and snowmobile trail opportunities
- Conserves natural infrastructure resources
- Builds capacity at the local level for implementation
- Encourages economic development
- Promotes healthy living
- Promotes sustainable land development
- Enhances the quality of life

Greenway corridors can be established to conserve contiguous forest or open space and conserve habitat for wildlife, hunting, and fishing. They can also conserve habitat for threatened or endangered species. Greenways along rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs may have multiple advantages, such as habitat conservation, flood control, and drinking water protection. Corridors linking areas of farmland and open space help to preserve the rural landscape and way of life. Many of these benefits are interrelated and work together to bolster quality of life in the region. For example, providing transportation alternatives in the form of trails, shared use paths, or safe routes to school leads to better health and fitness. Similarly, conserving historic and cultural resources supports economic prosperity by attracting visitors from inside and outside the region.

North Central Pennsylvania contains a diversity of environmental, cultural, and historic resources. Municipalities, counties, and regional partnership organizations are committed to plan for the future of the region by promoting and conserving the resources, utilizing a green infrastructure planning approach. Further, these entities are also committed to connecting our residents to our resources by expanding existing, and establishing new, recreation and transportation greenways throughout the North Central region.

The process of establishing a greenway network in North Central Pennsylvania will not take away the rights of property owners, nor will it restrict development in the region. The greenway network will promote sustainable development; reduce development costs; and reduce the burden of providing public services on local, county, and state governments.

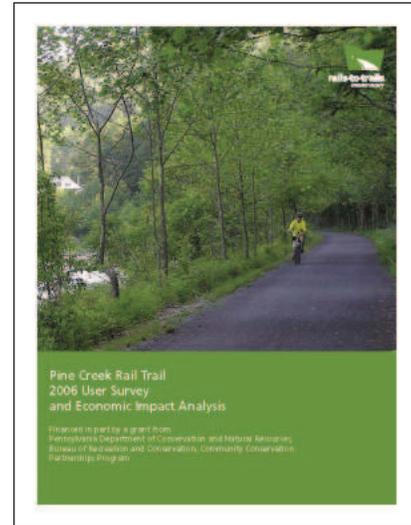
## ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF GREENWAYS

The economic benefits of greenway development are well documented by several studies completed along developed trails.

In 2006, the Rails to Trails Conservancy published the "Pine Creek Rail Trail User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis".

The study concluded that trail users were having a measurable, positive impact in the communities along the Pine Creek Rail Trail corridor. Specifically, the report stated:

- It is estimated that 125,000 trail users frequented the trail system within the Pine Creek Valley in 2006 creating an estimated economic impact of roughly \$5.4 million.
- 86% of the respondents indicated they purchased “soft goods” (water, soda, candy, ice cream, lunches, etc.) on their most recent trail outing.
- 82% of the respondents indicated they had purchased “hard goods” (bikes, bike accessories, clothing, etc.) in the past year in conjunction with their use of the trail. The majority of these purchases were bicycles and bike supplies that resulted in an average expenditure of \$354. While these types of purchases are not annually recurring, even with the most conservative usage estimate they amount to millions of dollars in sales. As a destination trail many of these purchases do not take place in the Pine Creek Valley. However, considering that nearly 86 percent of survey respondents are Pennsylvania residents, the trail is having a dramatic impact on the state’s economy.
- The average purchase amount per person was \$30. Considering that the average user makes several trips to the trail on an annual basis, at the minimum these types of purchases are also contributing several million dollars to the economy of the Pine Creek Valley. And, these types of purchases are recurring year after year.
- As a destination trail, the Pine Creek Rail Trail user frequently has to stay overnight in the valley in conjunction with a visit. The survey respondents indicated that more than 57% of them spent an overnight stay in conjunction with a trail excursion. The most frequent type of accommodation was indicated as “Other” which in most cases was a vacation home or camp in the valley. Local motels/hotels (22.43%) were the second-most frequently indicated type of accommodation. On average the survey respondents spent 3.34 nights in overnight accommodations. The average expenditure on overnight accommodations was \$69.08.
- All of the businesses owners interviewed indicated that the trail had resulted in an increase in business. The businesses interviewed included hotels, restaurants and general stores. One business owner stated that trail users accounted for between 35 percent and 49 percent of his business.



This study, along with other similar studies, including: the Great Allegheny Passage 2008 Economic Impact Study, the Heritage Rail Trail County Park 2007 User Survey and Economic Impact Analysis; Trail Utilization Study: Analysis of the Trail Systems within the Oil Heritage region 2006; and the 2002 User Survey for the Allegheny Trail Alliance confirm there are positive economic impacts associated with the development of these trails.

According to DCNR, tourism is the second largest industry in the Commonwealth, and nearly one-fifth of Pennsylvania's tourists travel to enjoy its outdoor amenities. A recent Pennsylvania study noted that in 2002, recreational tourism accounted for 459,000 jobs statewide, an increase of 100,000 from 1998. In addition, the report noted that "there is also evidence to demonstrate that communities with recreational greenways have witnessed significant increases in real estate values."

Moreover, greenways can encourage new residents to settle into an area. Young people and families are attracted to places that provide opportunities for easy access to outdoor recreation. Greenway trails provide such accessibility since they connect population centers to parks and other natural amenities. Furthermore, to cater to the needs of recreational users, new service businesses, such as bike shops, canoe & kayak rentals, outdoor equipment stores, restaurants, campsites, and bed and breakfasts often spring up around recreational greenways. These new businesses bring new jobs and additional tax dollars to the host municipalities.

Proximity to nature increases the desirability and value of residential property, a factor that increases the profitability of real estate development and the attractiveness of towns, cities, and regions. People have become increasingly willing to pay more to live near natural areas. For example: the Rocky Mountain Institute found that 48 percent of Denver residents were willing to pay more to live near a park or greenbelt in 1990, compared to 16 percent in 1980. In Tucson, Arizona, researchers found that a single-family house near a wildlife habitat would command a price premium of \$4,576 compared to a comparable house a mile farther from the wildlife habitat. This same study found that proximity to a golf course only resulted in a premium of \$2,215. In the City of Guelph, Ontario, a survey of residents revealed that 90 percent think the city administration should do more to encourage wildlife conservation, while 46 percent indicated a willingness to pay additional tax to fund this activity.

Beyond these direct economic benefits of greenways, other less-tangible but very important fiscal impacts may be attributed to greenway development. For example, when looking for places to relocate or expand their businesses, employers look at a variety of factors including amenities for their employees. Workers, particularly young people, are attracted to places that provide opportunities for easy access to outdoor recreation. Greenways and trails provide such accessibility since they connect employment centers to parks and other natural amenities.

### ***Conservation Subdivision Design: Price Premiums***

Conservation subdivisions have been described as "golf course communities...without the golf courses." A conservation subdivision involves the same attention to site design and the same economic dynamics as a golf course community. A small lot with access to a shared amenity commands a premium price. In the case of a golf course community, there is a guarantee that the view of the golf course will not change and the exclusivity of the community contribute to desirability in the market, despite the more compact

arrangement of houses on smaller lots. The same factors drive the market in a conservation subdivision. However, in a conservation subdivision, the shared amenity is protected open space instead of a golf course.

“Walking and biking paths” ranked third among thirty-nine features identified by home buyers as crucial factors in their home-purchasing decisions, according to a study by American Lives, a research firm serving the real estate industry. “Community designs that deliver low traffic and quiet streets” were ranked first, and “lots of natural, open space” was second.

Recently published research comparing conservation subdivisions to conventional subdivisions indicates that lots in conservation subdivisions can provide higher profits to developers. The study, which was conducted in Rhode Island, concludes that lots in conservation subdivisions:

- ✓ Carry a price premium - \$13,000 to \$18,000 per acre over conventional subdivision lots
- ✓ Are cheaper to build - average of \$7,400 less to produce a lot
- ✓ Sell more quickly - average selling time of 9.1 months, compared to 17.0 months for conventional subdivision lots

*Source: The Economics of Conservation Subdivisions: Price Premiums, Improvement Costs, and Absorption Rates, by Rayman Mohamed. Published in Urban Affairs Review, January 2006*

A Michigan study of values and priorities in choosing a home site concluded that “nature view from home” was by far the highest priority for residents of conservation subdivisions and conventional subdivisions. The study also concludes that conservation subdivision residents had a far higher level of satisfaction with the nearby environment than their counterparts in conventional subdivisions.

*Source: Open Space Communities: Resident Perceptions, Nature Benefits, and Problems with Terminology, by Kaplan, Austin, and Kaplan. Published in the Journal of the American Planning Association, summer 2004*



*Benezette, Elk County*

## RECREATION BENEFITS

Greenways offer opportunities for recreation, health, and fitness. Many studies have shown that as little as 30 minutes a day of moderate to intense exercise can improve a person's mental and physical health and prevent certain diseases. Studies also support the premise that Americans place a high priority on having trails and open space in their community for recreation purposes.

Greenways and trails:

- ✓ Support a wide variety of recreation uses
- ✓ Provide for the restoration and interpretation of historic sites
- ✓ Provide connectivity between rural areas and the main street centers
- ✓ Connect visitors with the goods and services they desire
- ✓ Enhance the quality of life for residents
- ✓ Connect Pennsylvania with its neighboring communities in New York
- ✓ Connect residents with the environment and our natural resources



*Westline, McKean County*

## TRANSPORTATION BENEFITS

One quarter of all trips taken by Americans are under a mile, but seventy-five percent of those trips are done by car, and only one third of school children who live less than a mile from school now walk to school.

Shared use trails (rail trails), sidewalks, bike lanes, and share the road bicycle routes encourage:

- ✓ The use of non-polluting transportation alternatives to the automobile for those short trips to work, school, or the local store
- ✓ The use of non-consumptive transportation alternatives to expending fossil fuels
- ✓ Reducing congestion
- ✓ Improving air quality
- ✓ Providing safe alternatives to residents
- ✓ Providing cost savings in car and road maintenance
- ✓ Enhancing quality of life



*Brockway, Jefferson County*

According to the U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics:

- The average pedestrian's trip for recreation purposes is 1.9 miles
- The average pedestrian's trip for non-recreation purposes is 0.8 miles
- The average bicyclist's trip for recreation purposes is 5.6 miles
- The average bicyclist's trip for non-recreation purposes is 2.2 miles

There are many opportunities to expand choices for alternate modes of transportation such as developing safe routes to schools and expanding the roadway network to include bicycle facilities.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS BENEFITS

Trails and greenways create healthy recreation and transportation opportunities by providing people of all ages with attractive, safe, accessible, and low - or no-cost places to cycle, walk, hike, jog, or skate. Trails help people of all ages incorporate exercise into their daily routines by connecting them with places they want or need to go. Communities that encourage physical activity by making use of the linear corridors can see a significant effect on public health and wellness.

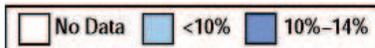
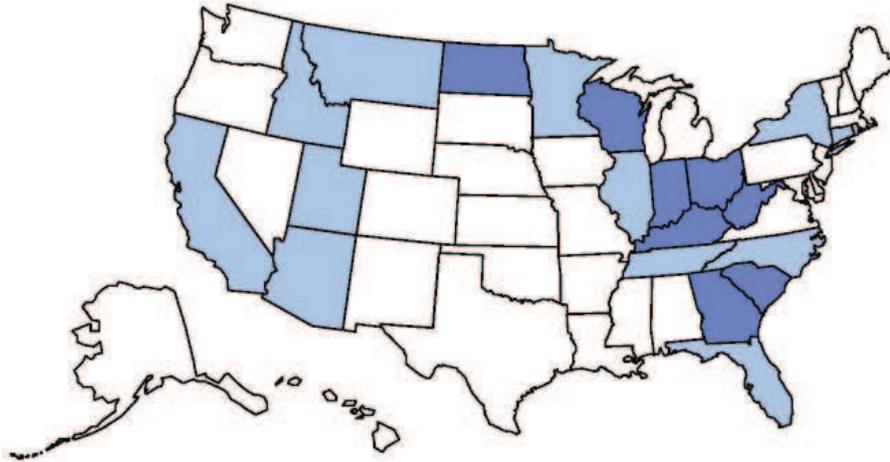
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Disease Control has been tracking obesity rates in the United States since 1985. Between now and then, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States.

- In 1990, among states participating in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, ten states had a prevalence of obesity less than 10% and no states had prevalence equal to or greater than 15%.
- By 1999, no state had prevalence less than 10%, eighteen states had a prevalence of obesity between 20-24%, and no state had prevalence equal to or greater than 25%.
- In 2008, only one state (Colorado) had a prevalence of obesity less than 20%. Thirty-two states had a prevalence equal to or greater than 25%; six of these states (Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia ) had a prevalence of obesity equal to or greater than 30%.



## Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1985

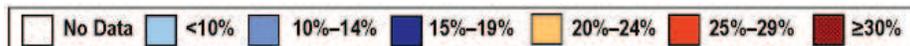
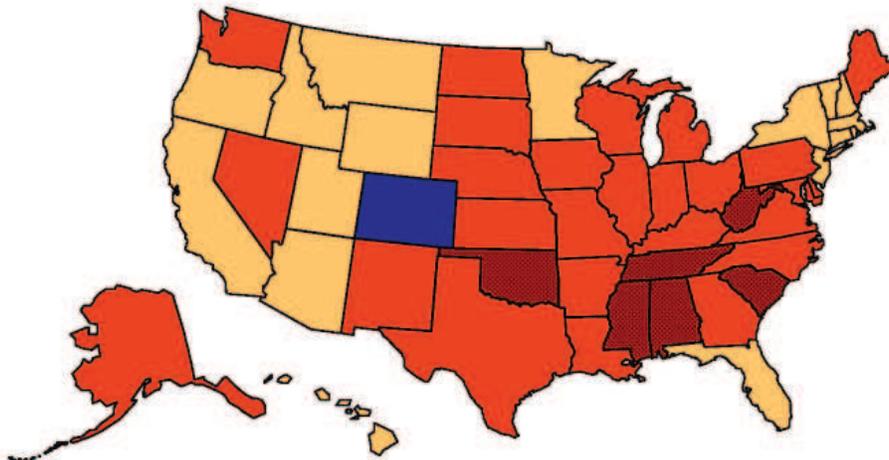
(\*BMI  $\geq 30$ , or  $\sim 30$  lbs. overweight for 5' 4" person)



Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

## Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 2008

(\*BMI  $\geq 30$ , or  $\sim 30$  lbs. overweight for 5' 4" person)



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, CDC.

The Rails to Trails Conservancy’s fact sheet “Health and Wellness Benefits,” provides the following facts on how greenways and trails benefit health and wellness:

- ✓ In addition to helping control weight, opportunities for physical activity help to prevent heart disease, helps control cholesterol levels and diabetes, slows bone loss associated with advancing age, lowers the risk of certain cancers, and helps reduce anxiety and depression. The power of physical activity to improve mood and prevent disabilities and chronic diseases is especially pronounced for older adults.
- ✓ Trails connect people with places, enabling them to walk or cycle to run errands or commute to work. A majority of the daily trips people make are short, providing an opportunity for physical activity that can be built into the daily routine.
- ✓ Trails connect neighborhoods and schools so children can cycle or walk to their friend’s homes or to school, especially in communities that lack sidewalks.
- ✓ Trails and greenways provide natural, scenic areas that cause people to actually want to be outside and be physically active.



Many studies have concluded that there are economic benefits associated with being physically fit, such as:

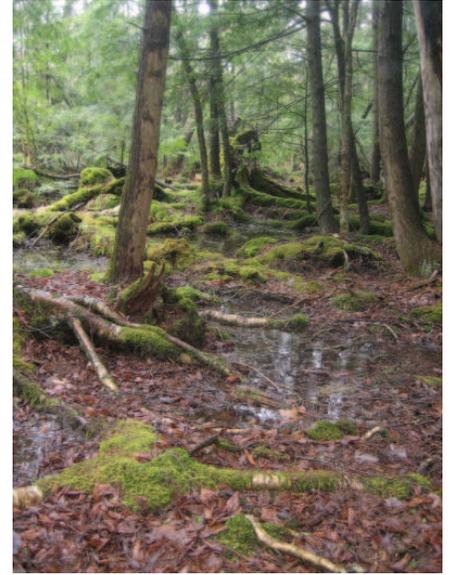
- ✓ Lower medical costs, fewer insurance claims
- ✓ Increased job productivity
- ✓ Decreased absenteeism , depression, and job turnover
- ✓ Prevention of disability

Greenways and trails provide opportunities for maintaining a physically fit lifestyle.

## **ECOLOGICAL BENEFITS**

The ecological benefits of greenways are most likely some of the most important benefits provided to us. However, they generally are the least understood and valued. These ecological benefits are expensive to replace with artificial means to achieve their functions. Ecological benefits include:

- ✓ Filtering stormwater as it returns to the aquifers
- ✓ Absorbing contaminants of surface runoff
- ✓ Storing stormwater runoff during large rain events
- ✓ Cleansing and replenishing the air
- ✓ Buffering the negative effects of development
- ✓ Mitigating noise, water, thermal, and air pollution
- ✓ Controlling property damage due to flooding
- ✓ Conserving vital habitat corridors
- ✓ Promoting plant and animal species diversity



*View From Kinzua Valley Trail, McKean County*

Probably the least understood and least quantified aspect of greenways is the impact of natural resource greenways to the economy. There are tourism dollars generated from residents and visitors to the region that otherwise would not be realized if it weren't for the natural resources that support them. These tourism dollars would be non-existent if the resources which create habitat, create recreation opportunities, and create north central Pennsylvania's character did not exist.

The natural resources along north central Pennsylvania's waterways cleanse water, provide for the temporary storage of flood waters, and provide ground water recharge zones. Without these resources in place, we would realize a significant cost in building additional infrastructure to replace these functions. Further, the single aspect of temporarily storing floodwaters provides a major financial benefit by controlling property damage that may be caused by flooding. By eliminating these storage areas and increasing impermeable surfaces, the risk of flooding is increased, and an expense is incurred during development to mitigate their negative effects.

**PRESERVING NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA'S DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS**

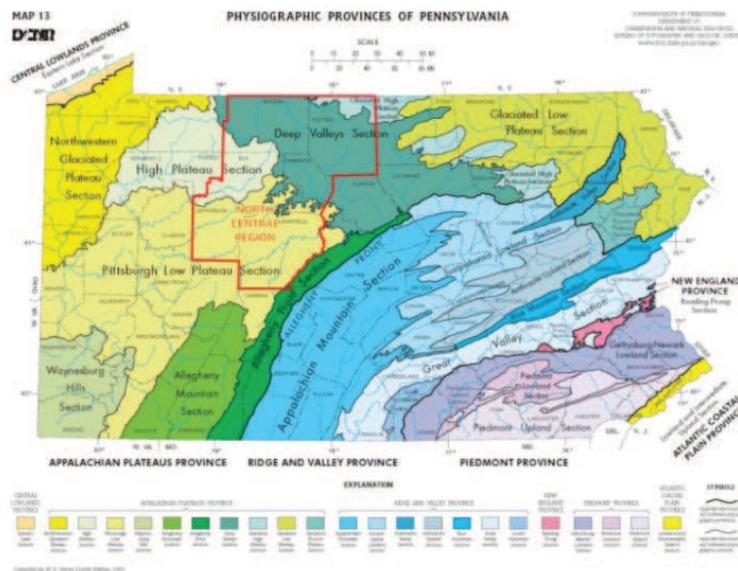
Maintaining and conserving North Central Pennsylvania's open spaces and natural resources is now of greater importance than ever. Conservation of these assets can play a key role in establishing a high quality of life for ourselves and future generations. Residents enjoy the natural and recreational resources that set their community or region apart from everywhere else.



Marvin Creek, west of Smethport, McKean County

The counties of the North Central region are almost entirely situated in the Appalachian Plateaus Province. The region's terrain within the Appalachian Plateau is rugged and heavily dissected by streams that have carved deep valleys and steep hillsides. Within this province, the region is broken up into four sections, including the Glaciated High Plateau, Deep Valleys, High Plateau, and Pittsburgh Low Plateau.

- The *Glaciated High Plateau Section* consists of broad to narrow, rounded to relatively flat, elongate uplands separated in most places from the adjacent Glaciated Low Plateau Section by a steep-sloped, well-defined escarpment. This section is found in the northern part of Potter County along the New York border.



- The majority of Potter, McKean, and Cameron Counties are situated in the *Deep Valleys Section*. This section consists of many very deep, steep-sloped valleys that are separated by narrow, flat to sloping uplands. Except for the northwestern part of the section where the Allegheny River is the master drainage, the valleys have been eroded by the West Branch Susquehanna River and its

tributaries. These tributaries are slowly but steadily extending the length of their valleys by erosion of their headwater areas.

- The *High Plateau Section* consists of broad, rounded to flat uplands cut by deep angular valleys. The uplands are underlain by flat-lying sandstones and conglomerates. A large part of the Section is covered by trees of the Allegheny National Forest. There are a number of Federal Recreation Areas within the forest, mainly associated with Allegheny Reservoir.
- The *Pittsburgh Low Plateau Section* consists of a smooth undulating upland surface cut by numerous, narrow, relatively shallow valleys. The uplands are developed on rocks containing the bulk of the significant bituminous coal in Pennsylvania. The landscape reflects this by the presence of some operating surface mines, many old stripping areas, and many reclaimed stripping areas. Bilger Rocks in Clearfield County is an example of an outstanding geologic feature within this section.

The Wild and Scenic Clarion River; the West Branch of the Susquehanna; the headwaters of the Allegheny; the triple divide watershed of the Allegheny, Genesee, and Susquehanna Rivers; Pennsylvania Wilds; Lumber Heritage region; and Allegheny National Forest are all part of defining the region's character.

The North Central region has many recreational assets, including 16 State Parks, numerous state game lands, and many existing trail opportunities, including the nationally significant North Country National Scenic Trail and the Susquehanna River Water Trail - West Branch. These resources provide a variety of opportunities for biking, hiking, fishing, hunting, boating, snowmobiling, wildlife viewing, and other pastimes.

In addition to its abundant natural and recreational assets, the region also has a rich history that is well-preserved. The region is comprised of many significant sites and structures, as well as several historic districts. Greenways linking historic resources with the region's recreational amenities will increase their accessibility and attract more tourists.

Pennsylvania's rural landscape is an inextricable link to its history, as well as a demonstration of the success that continues to be achieved by its farming community. Studies demonstrate that Pennsylvania has lost much of its agricultural land over the last 25 years to urban areas. This rate of loss has a sizeable economic impact, but it also threatens the unique characteristics that encompass Pennsylvania such as its rural legacy. Development without preservation of this rural character significantly impacts the future course of the Commonwealth. Greenways help to preserve the rural character of a community by:

- ✓ Protecting ridge lines, river corridors, and scenic resources
- ✓ Providing visual relief by framing and distinguishing neighborhoods in the face of sprawl
- ✓ Preserving farmland, small country settlements, and surrounding open space
- ✓ Maintaining the character of place

## **EXPANDING THE ECONOMY**

The North Central region contains numerous natural and recreational resources that are important assets for providing the potential for substantial growth in the travel and tourism sector. This fact, in conjunction with the region's proximity to major population centers, such as Buffalo and Pittsburgh, as well as its location along major transportation routes like U.S. Interstate 80, U.S. Route 6, and U.S. Route 219 make it a logical place for development in one of the fastest-growing sectors in Pennsylvania's economy: Recreation and Eco-Tourism. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, tourism is the second largest industry in the Commonwealth, and nearly one-fifth of Pennsylvania's tourists travel to enjoy its outdoor amenities.

### TOURISM/ECO-TOURISM

National surveys suggest that outdoor recreation participation continues to increase with the five fastest growing pursuits being: birding, hiking, backpacking, snowmobiling, and walking (Cordell and Herbert 2002). Ninety-seven percent of all Americans over the age of sixteen participate in some sort of outdoor recreation, with thirty-three percent of Americans reporting that they go bird-watching (Cordell and Herbert 2002).

### HUNTING & FISHING

Hunting, fishing, and trapping activities account for \$9.6 billion dollars in annual value and create 88,000 jobs within Pennsylvania (Shafer et al. 2000). The 9.6 billion dollars was more than half of the entire state budget in 1997, the year of the study. Between 25 and 50% of all hunting and fishing trips involve state-owned land and water, while up to 40% involve private, non-posted lands (Shafer et al. 2000).

The counties of the North Central region provide excellent hunting opportunities within any of their 26 state game lands. State wide, hunters spent over \$1.33 billion dollars on hunting trips in 1996.



*Walter Dick Memorial Park, Brookville, Jefferson County*

According to recent studies, fishing is the most popular water based recreation activity in Pennsylvania, with nearly twenty-eight percent of residents participating, for an estimated 3.2 million participants across the Commonwealth. With some of the best fisheries on the Commonwealth, the North Central region attracts many anglers.

Fishing is a great economic asset in the region. Pennsylvania residents sixteen years and older spent \$800 million on fishing in the state and elsewhere in 2001. The average angler spent approximately \$632 on fishing in 2001. Within the North Central region, there were 27,537 anglers in 2008. Based on the numbers from this study, these anglers contributed more than \$17.4 million to the local economy.

According to the PA Fish and Boat Commission 2009 Trout Stocking by County list, there are 135 trout-stocked streams within the six counties of the North Central region. The PA Fish and Boat Commission report on *Angler Use, Harvest and Economic Assessment on Trout-Stocked Streams in Pennsylvania* found that angling on trout stocked streams contributed over \$65.7 million dollars to Pennsylvania's economy

during the first eight weeks of the regular trout season in 2005. Additionally, angling on trout-stocked streams also supported 1,119 jobs in the state.

## BOATING

The PA Fish and Boat Commission's boating facts found that Pennsylvania residents spend \$1.7 billion on boating annually, including boat fishing. The average yearly expenditure per recreational boater is \$274. The average recreational boater spends \$113 a year in direct boating expenses, including purchasing or renting of boats, fuel, boating supplies, maintenance and repairs, storage, and registration.

The PA Fish and Boat Commission lists nine Boating Special Regulation Lakes as well as two designated water trails within the six counties of the North Central region.

## WILDLIFE VIEWING

In 1999, Strauss & Tzilkowski published the "Economic Impact of Pennsylvania's Elk Herd: Analysis of the Demographics, Pursuits, and Expenditures of a Recreational Audience" on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. This study identified the economic impact resulting from elk viewing in North Central Pennsylvania as follows:

- Attendance was established at approximately 52,000 visitor days during the first year of the project (September 1997 to August 1998), followed by over 72,000 visitor days in the second year. The 38% increase in attendance between the two years was a reflection of the higher totals in each month of the second year.
- Over the two-year period, 90% of the visits were from non-Pennsylvania residents. Elk viewing was the primary purpose of the trips among 71% of the non resident visitors and was a shared purpose among an additional 25% of the non residents. The most prevalent source of information on the elk viewing area was from "word of mouth" – as identified by 48% of the visitors. During the second year, the general media was cited by 23% of the audience as a key information source. On the question of whether those interviewed would support a limited elk hunt outside the main viewing, 54% of the non residents were in support, whereas only 45% of the residents supported this proposal.
- Regional expenditures by non resident elk viewers varied between the two study years, with the first year averaging \$19 per visitor per day and the second year \$11 per visitor per day. The second year reductions occurred in all major categories; food, transportation, and lodging. About 50% of the non resident visitors stayed overnight, either within or near the region. Twenty percent of this audience also owned cabins in or near the region.
- Total regional expenditures by non residents in the first year amounted to \$900,000 and in the second year were \$650,000. The regional economic impact from non-resident expenditures in the first year was \$1.2 million and during the second year was \$872 thousand. The majority of these gains were realized in the retail trade and service sectors.



*Elk Viewing, Winslow Hill, Elk County*

The average bird watcher spends more than \$350 each year on travel and paraphernalia related to bird

watching. Committed birdwatchers spend \$2,000 or more annually, around half of which is on travel (USDI survey, 1993).

The total economic effect of non-consumptive bird and waterfowl recreation alone is estimated to be more than \$450 million per year in the state of Pennsylvania. Like other forms of outdoor recreation, non-consumptive wildlife recreation creates significant benefits for communities surrounding the recreation site. 2001 Economic Benefits of Watchable Wildlife Recreation in Pennsylvania, Southwick. Associates, Inc.

- In 2001, watchable wildlife recreation generated twice the value produced by Pennsylvania's farms and three times the total spent to see 2001's top-grossing film, "Harry Potter".
- Watchable wildlife generated \$70 million in state sales federal taxes and \$962 million in retail sales, including food, travel, and lodging.
- Watchable wildlife recreation supports almost 19,000 employees with wages totaling more than \$509 million.
- Wildlife viewing expenditures in Pennsylvania exceeded all of the money spent nationally on skiing and snow-boarding.
- Watchable wildlife recreation overwhelmingly benefits times of the year when other income sources are low.

Many hunters and fishermen participate in non-consumptive wildlife activities. Sportsmen have reported spending approximately \$93 million annually to observe and attract wildlife to their homes. They spend \$860 million in wildlife-associated trips away from the home, spending on average \$33 per wildlife viewing trip.

The National Audubon Society has designated five Important Bird Areas that are at least partially within the six counties of the North Central region.

## *EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS*

Greenways and trails provide educational benefits from a variety of perspectives, including cultural, historical, and environmental interpretation.

Our best link to our future can be by examining our past. Greenways serve to promote the unique history and culture of towns, cities, and villages all across Pennsylvania by providing:

- ✓ Access to buildings of historic and architectural significance in a community
- ✓ A look back at the events and people that shaped the present
- ✓ An opportunity to preserve historic assets and archeological artifacts

Natural areas that are set aside for educational purposes provide immeasurable opportunities for people of all ages to learn and interact with their natural surroundings. Greenways:

- ✓ Act as living museums, outdoor classrooms, and laboratories
- ✓ Provide scenic excursions along water trails or wildlife preserves
- ✓ Assist students, both young and old, in developing concepts and skills by helping them become effective stewards and decision makers concerning our natural resources
- ✓ Promote and encourage interaction with our natural surroundings

## **CONSERVING PRIORITY HABITATS**

North Central Pennsylvania contains a variety of forests, wetlands, rivers, natural areas, and streams, as well as several conservation holdings. All of these features provide habitat for a wide array of plants and animals. Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) data for five of the six counties within the region was provided for use in developing this plan, while the Cameron County NHI was not yet completed, draft data for areas of sensitive species within the county were provided for use in this plan. The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program identifies natural areas that serve as critical habitat for species of special concern or that host a variety of habitats and landscape features warranting conservation. The Pennsylvania Audubon Society has identified at five Important Bird Areas (IBAs) which areas essential to sustaining wild bird populations, in the North Central region. And, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is promoting the conservation and enhancement of the North Central Pennsylvania Elk Range.

Greenway implementation strategies developed through this planning process will help to conserve these sensitive resources and promote development that respects these resources.

## **SOUND LAND USE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

Proper planning is essential for ensuring new residential, commercial, and industrial development is implemented in a manner that respects the region's natural infrastructure, along with the aforementioned cultural, historic, and scenic resources.

An example of responsible land use is the in-fill development of land in existing main streets. For example, developing land for a commercial services provider along the main street, rather than previously undisturbed land, provides easier access to utilities and resources, while preserving an existing area of open space.

It is important to note that a thoughtfully-developed greenway plan does not oppose development, but rather identifies ways to integrate it with conservation practices. Thus, economic growth will occur in planned areas and will result in healthier communities, economically, socially, and environmentally.

As noted earlier this document is non-regulatory, and serves as a reference and guide for the counties, municipalities, conservation organizations, trail organizations, and other agencies who desire to enhance the quality of life in the North Central region by connecting our communities by expanding our trail systems, and conserving and promoting our natural resources for public benefit. Recommendations identified in this plan are not enforceable by any agency. Implementation of this plan is the responsibility of various agencies with the North Central region and depends upon cooperation and collaboration among many different organizations.



*Ridgway, Elk County*

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## REGIONAL CONTEXT

In 2005, the Governor’s Center published the “State Land Use and Growth Report.” This report documented the most pressing land issues and trends in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. From this effort regional and county land use profiles were developed for all Pennsylvania’s nine regions and sixty-seven counties. These profiles document the status of existing and future land use as well as development trends and issues.

The following is a summary of the conclusions reached in the State Land Use and Growth Report for the North Central region and its respective counties provides us with an understanding of the region, its counties, and its residents. Demographic statistics have been updated to include the 2007 U.S. Census population estimates.



### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

#### *Population Trends*

The North Central Pennsylvania region experienced a slight population increase, of 2.38% from 1990 to 2000. However, the 2007 U.S. Census Bureau estimates a decline in the region’s population of 4.10% from 2000 to 2007. Further, each of the counties in the region are estimated to have a decline in population between 2000 and 2007.

County	Population			Percent Change		
	1990	2000	2007*	1990-2000	2000-2007	1990-2007
Cameron County	5,913	5,974	5,349	1.0%	-11.7%	-9.5%
Clearfield County	78,097	83,382	81,452	6.8%	-2.3%	4.1%
Elk County	34,878	35,112	32,610	0.7%	-7.1%	-6.5%
Jefferson County	46,083	45,932	45,135	-0.3%	-1.7%	-2.1%
McKean County	47,131	45,936	43,633	-2.5%	-5.0%	-7.4%
Potter County	16,717	18,066	16,987	8.1%	-6.0%	1.6%
<i>Regional Totals</i>	<i>228,819</i>	<i>234,402</i>	<i>225,166</i>	<i>2.4%</i>	<i>-4.1%</i>	<i>-1.6%</i>

Regions, counties, and local municipalities with declining population rates typically have difficulty in meeting increased costs associated with infrastructure, education, and other government services. Further, as the population declines there is also usually reduced capacity for capital investments.

In addition to these population trends in the region, another important demographic to consider is population density. With an average population density of less than 43 persons per square mile the North Central region is Pennsylvania’s least densely populated region.

According to the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, a county is defined as being rural when the number of persons per square mile within the county is less than 274 and a municipality is considered to be rural when the

population density within the municipality is less than 274 persons per square mile. Therefore, all of the counties and municipalities in the North Central region are considered to be rural areas of the Commonwealth. Defining rural areas is a measure that tells us that there are differences in population and that distance, population density, and isolation impact the character of the populations that live in these areas.

### **Key Land Use Trends**

Key land use trends for the North Central region were identified by the region's county planning directors through their respective county land use profiles and during a focus group discussion held at the Clearfield County Planning Commission in 2004. In addition to the county planning directors, the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission also participated in the focus group discussion.

The impact of statewide public policy on land uses was a common issue that emerged while identifying the regional trends. It was noted that statewide public policy should not be "one size fits all." Legislative intent along with regional and local impacts should be fully analyzed before legislation is enacted or amended. The planning directors also noted that the trends are highly interrelated with transportation issues at the center. A number of other key regional land use and development trends and issues were also identified as outlined below.

- ✓ *The region's population and housing growth is stagnant and is shifting from the first-generation communities (cities, boroughs, and first-class townships) to the second-generation communities.* From 1990 to 2000, the population within the region's cities, boroughs, and first-class townships has essentially shifted into the second-class townships, which has generated a relatively equal amount of new housing units. Note, that Elk County's statistics contradict this trend due to the 1994 consolidation of Benzinger Township and St. Mary's Borough to form St. Mary's City.
- ✓ *The majority of the region's new single-family housing units have been constructed in the region's second-generation communities.* Population shifting from the region's first- to second-generation communities, coupled with a decreasing household size, has contributed to an ever increasing number of housing units constructed in the second-class townships. This trend, however, has been occurring *even before* the nation's post World War II suburbanization. Since 1940, 44.6% (51,903 units) of the region's total housing units were built in second class townships as opposed to only 18.6% (21,696 units) constructed in the first-generation communities. These trends show that the demand for housing has increasingly been focused in non-urban areas, thereby, leading to disinvestments in the region's older housing stock. This, in turn, has contributed to a net loss of quality, affordable housing within the first-generation communities.
- ✓ *The State's transportation planning process creates a fragmented system which impacts transportation and land use region wide.* Due to the region's mountainous topography, the highway transportation infrastructure is critical to link communities and move goods. Because transportation infrastructure is a critical issue, the transportation planning process has a tremendous regional impact. However, the State's transportation improvement programming process is problematic for the region because the majority of the region's available funds are allocated to larger projects over longer periods of time, which leaves little to no allocations to local projects. As such, smaller projects with localized, but nonetheless important impacts are delayed due to these decisions. Furthermore, this creates a system of local competition for funds with several opposing advocate groups, often from the same municipality, vying for funds.

- ✓ *Although slow, much of the region's growth is unregulated and unplanned.* Of the region's 157 municipalities, only one-third of the municipalities have adopted a comprehensive plan, and less than 25% have adopted land use regulations. Moreover, a statewide municipal planning and land use survey conducted by the Penn State Cooperative Extension concluded that the majority of the region's municipalities do not have a planning commission. The lack of interest in planning is, in part, supported by the population's strong sentiment favoring private property and land ownership rights. Any planning that is done is often reactive—to NIMBY (not in my backyard) or LULU (locally unacceptable land use) concerns.
- ✓ *Many municipalities lack the capacity and interest for planning.* According to a Penn State Cooperative Extension survey of county planning directors, 70% of the survey respondents indicated that "limited support, understanding, interest, and demand for planning by elected officials" was the most significant barrier to effective planning. A majority (69%) of the respondents also indicated that there is "limited support, understanding, interest, and demand for planning by the general public." These barriers are indicative of many northern Pennsylvania rural communities that are not experiencing the growth pressures that many south central and southeastern Pennsylvania communities are. As such, many local elected officials are focused on delivering traditional municipal services, such as seasonal roadway maintenance, and do not recognize the need or demand for planning and land use controls. Unfortunately, the ultimate impact on the community is not realized until many small developments are implemented over time without the guidance of a comprehensive plan or proper land use regulations.
- ✓ *Elected county officials too often do not realize the importance and benefits of planning.* The need for community planning is an issue that is too often overlooked by many county officials who do not recognize the linkage between sound land use planning and economic development. Support for and interest in planning by many of the region's county officials is reflected in their respective county planning departments' FY 2001-02 operating budgets. A comparative analysis of each county's planning budget in relation to its total population was conducted. This relationship shows that for every person, less than the statewide average of \$1.86 was spent on planning. Elk and Potter Counties were the exceptions where more than the State average was spent on planning for every person. This general lack of funding and support also hinders county planning agencies' interests and capabilities to educate local officials on the benefits of planning and provide the much-needed technical assistance in preparing and implementing sound land use policies. This trend exemplifies the need to increase the County Commissioner's Association of Pennsylvania level of participation, awareness, and interest in county and municipal planning issues and activities.
- ✓ *Many statewide policies are written as a "one size fits all" solution.* Many of the State's land use-related policies are not applicable to every local situation across the State. For example, the Clean and Green program's ten acre minimum requirement may indeed serve as an effective open space preservation tool in many of the Commonwealth's urban and suburban communities, but it effectively subsidizes sprawl and fragments forest and agricultural land throughout rural Pennsylvania. Other statewide policies, such as brownfields redevelopment and the Keystone Opportunity Zone programs, also mimic this problem. Pennsylvania is a diverse state and the need for state officials and lawmakers to understand that one size does not fit all is fundamental to the State's composition as a Commonwealth.
- ✓ *The region is part of a nation-wide trend in the growth of non-metro recreation areas.* Affordable land values coupled with the region's wealth of outdoor recreational amenities have contributed

to an increase in the number of seasonal housing units. Census data reveals that the North Central region experienced an 11.4% increase in seasonal housing units during the 1990s. By comparison, Pennsylvania's growth in seasonal housing units during this same period was 7.0%. A future concern from this growing trend may be the conversion of these seasonal units to permanent dwellings, which, in turn, may increase the demand for public services. In their study of the relationship between population growth and outdoor recreational amenities, Johnson and Beale summarize this national trend and its impact on rural communities like the North Central region: "Increased recreational activity, the appeal of second homes, and the influx of former urbanites into rural areas all create the demand for housing and for an expanded business, service, and governmental infrastructure to support it."

- ✓ *The Commonwealth lacks a coordinated, sound land use planning strategy.* Although the power and authority for municipalities to develop and implement their own planning policies should remain as authorized under the Municipalities Planning Code, there is a real need for the Commonwealth to identify a state-level entity to lead an effective and coordinated, sound land use planning policy and ensure that the State's various Smart Growth programs are implemented appropriately between state agencies and municipalities. This entity should serve as the professional planning staff to a revived State Planning Board.

## CAMERON COUNTY

### *Location*

Cameron County is located in heart of North Central Pennsylvania. It is surrounded by Clearfield County to the south, Elk County to the west, McKean County to the north, and Potter and Clinton Counties to the east.

### *Population Trends*

With seven municipalities comprised of two boroughs and five townships, Cameron County is rural in character. The two boroughs are Emporium (2007 population estimate: 2,241) and Driftwood (2007 population estimate: 92). Emporium is the county seat.



*Cameron County Courthouse*

The population recorded in the 2000 U.S. Census was 5,974, ranking Cameron County in 66<sup>th</sup> position among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The 2007 U.S. Census population estimate for Cameron County is 5,349, and a current 67<sup>th</sup> position among Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

With a land area of 397.16 square miles, it is the 12<sup>th</sup> smallest county in Pennsylvania. The County's population density is 15 housing units per square mile, making it the third most sparsely populated county in the state. From 1990 to 2000, Census figures showed a one percent increase in population. However, according to the 2007 U.S. Census population estimates the population is projected to have decreased to 5,349 persons, an 11.7% decrease from 2000. Cameron County's 4,592 housing units is the smallest number among the state's 67 counties. The number of housing units increased by 4.4 % from 1990 to 2000 the 22<sup>nd</sup> slowest rate of growth of housing units. The number of households grew by 2.9% from 2000-2007, placing the County in 51<sup>st</sup> position among Pennsylvania's counties.

The median age of Cameron County residents is 41.3 years, the fourth highest median age among Pennsylvania counties. According to 1997 estimates in the 2000 Census, 10.8% of Cameron County residents have incomes below federal poverty guidelines. This places Cameron County in 38<sup>th</sup> position among the 67 counties, but is slightly below the statewide average of 10.9%. Among County residents, 12.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher, ranking 52<sup>nd</sup> among the 67 counties.

### *Existing Land Use Conditions*

The majority (97.4%) of Cameron County's total land area is undeveloped, and is largely devoted to forestland and some agricultural uses. Most of Cameron County is devoted to either state forest or state game lands. A substantial part of the Elk Forest lies within Cameron County's borders. This 200,000 acre forest located primarily in Cameron and adjoining Elk County is available for primitive camping, licensed hunting and fishing, and other recreational pursuits.

Cameron County also includes Bucktail State Park, with a scenic drive following PA Route 120 from Lock Haven to Emporium along the West Branch of the Susquehanna River and the Sinnemahoning Creek.

Cameron County's total of 26 farms is the second smallest number of farms among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. An average county in Pennsylvania has 678 farms. The 4,000 acres of agricultural land is also the second smallest amount of farm acreage statewide. The average amount of agricultural land among Pennsylvania counties is 107,045 acres. The average size of a Cameron County farm is 159 acres, which ranks Cameron County in 31<sup>st</sup> position in average size of farms, and very close to the statewide average size of 158 acres per farm. The average annual income of a farm in Cameron County is \$8,769, the smallest average annual farm income among the 67 counties. Statewide, the average annual farm income is \$87,942.

Route 120 is the major highway artery in Cameron County. It connects Cameron County to the Borough of Renovo located to the east in Clinton County, and to the City of St. Marys and to Ridgway Borough in Elk County to the west. Several Keystone Opportunity Zones for local and state tax abatement are located along Route 120 just west of Emporium. Route 46 provides access to Smethport, the county seat of McKean County, to the north. Route 120 offers some lots with site infrastructure, and is the only transportation corridor in the County that is attracting development.

Development along Route 120 is occurring at a moderate pace and has resulted in minimal agricultural land conversion. A third transportation corridor in the County is Route 155.

Extension of sewer lines along Route 120 near Emporium Borough has opened additional sites for development. Water line extensions have been more difficult to fund because the water company serving the area is privately owned. A new water treatment plant has been built for Driftwood Borough, which had experienced water quality problems.

The core communities in Cameron County are the Borough of Emporium and Shippen Township. Emporium Borough contains the largest concentration of business and residential investment in the County. Shippen Township, just outside of Emporium Borough, is predominantly residential but also includes a broad mix of business development.

Manufacturing in Cameron County is based in Emporium. The two dominant types of manufacturing businesses are machine shops, including tool and die shops, and sintered metals, also known as the powder metal sector. These sectors represent over 1,000 jobs, which represents over 80% of the manufacturing jobs in Cameron County; they are experiencing continuing moderate expansion and employment growth.

Located in a region with one of the world's best hardwood stands, there are also logging, lumber, and furniture dimension firms in Cameron County. Although hardwoods firms are doing well, decline in demand in the paper and particleboard sectors has also affected demand for logs.

### *Key Land Use Issues*

- ✓ ***The number one land issue in Cameron County is the effect of the flood plain ordinances on the availability of development sites.*** Cameron County has a high percentage of state-owned forests, steep slopes, and valleys identified as floodplain. Many locations within the County are relatively near a stream, fork, or branch. The flood plain ordinance effectively restricts the availability of valley development sites; impeding business investment, tax base growth, and employment opportunity.

- ✓ ***Cameron County's new comprehensive plan will provide an opportunity to reexamine highest and best use of this land,*** given the low average annual income from Cameron County's 4,000 acres of agricultural land and the shortage of developable land.

### ***Land Use Planning Activities***

- ✓ In the absence of planning staff, volunteers on the County Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board provide reviews of permit applications, subdivision and land development proposals, and applications for exceptions and special permits to the County zoning ordinance.
- ✓ Preparation is underway for an update of the County comprehensive plan, official map, zoning ordinance, and subdivision and land development ordinance.

## **CLEARFIELD COUNTY**

### ***Location***

Clearfield County is located slightly west of the center of the state. It is surrounded by the counties of Jefferson, Elk, Cameron, Clinton, Centre, Cambria, and Indiana. At one time, large numbers of bison created openings, or "clear-fields," near the Clearfield Creek. Today, 51 Municipalities and 83,382 people (2000 Census) call Clearfield County home. Twenty of these municipalities are boroughs, 30 are townships, and one is a city, DuBois. Clearfield Borough is the county seat.

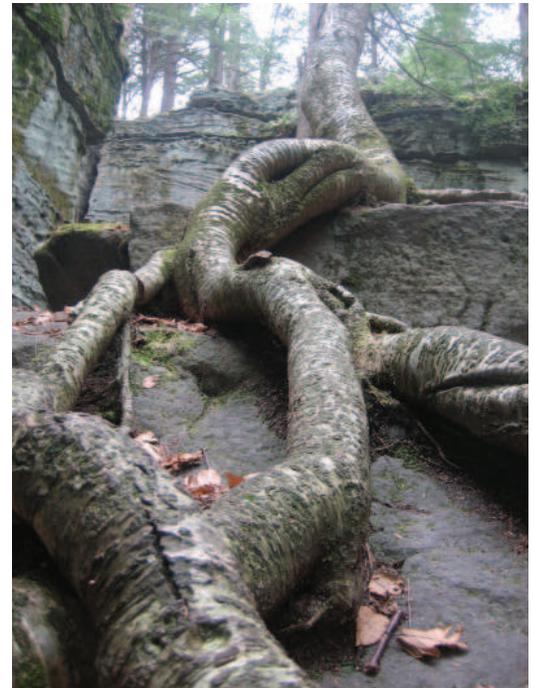
Clearfield County contains 1,147 square miles and is the third largest county in the state.

### ***Population Trends***

In 2000 the U.S. Census indicated the County's population was 83,382 persons, indicating the county's population grew by 6.8% from 1990, twice the rate of Pennsylvania. Townships experiencing the most growth between 1990 and 2000 were Woodward, Pine, Karthaus, Goshen, and Bradford. However, the 2007 U.S. Census population estimates project a 2.31% decline in the population from 2000 to 2007, to a population of 81,452 persons. Based on population Clearfield County is ranked 36<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Overall the County maintains a modest population density of 72.7 people per square mile.

### ***Existing Land Use Conditions***

The overall rural character of Clearfield County is reflected by its current land use conditions, with only 10.9% of the land considered developed. As such, approximately 89% of the County's total land area is undeveloped with a majority of this total devoted to forest and agricultural uses.



*Bilger's Rocks, Clearfield County*

Clearfield County's topographic features have largely shaped its land uses. The County is located in the western foothills of the Bald Eagle Mountains, a chain of the Appalachian Mountains. While over 75% of the County has a slope of less than eight percent, the overall irregular pattern of steep slopes limits specific development potential in certain areas. In addition, a few areas have massive strip mining excavations that have altered the landscape. Still, a good portion (over 50% of the County) is modestly sloped and is either used for agricultural purposes or is vacant and available for development. The traversing of Interstate 80 from east to west across the County, as well as the major highways of U.S. 219, 322, and 119, have greatly affected development patterns.

### *Key Land Use Issues*

- ✓ *Many economic factors in Clearfield County are below the state's average; therefore job creation and development opportunities are strongly encouraged.* Two dramatic statistics came out of the 2000 Census for Clearfield County. First, the County ranks 6th in the state for the percentage of children below the poverty level at 18.3%. Second, it ranks 10th in the state for the percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees or higher educational attainment. In general, the percent of unemployed was somewhat greater in Clearfield County than for the state as a whole, 6.9% (county) compared to 5.7% (state), according to the 2000 Census. Clearfield County's median household income was \$31,357 compared to \$40,106 for Pennsylvania, also reported in the 2000 Census.
- ✓ *Development and new job creation is encouraged in the County, but there is concern over the type and location of development.* Development is encouraged to locate adjacent to existing development to maximize infrastructure investment. Infill projects are also encouraged over strip development and, as land is gradually consumed for residential and commercial development, municipalities and economic development organizations are encouraged to reserve suitable sites for future industrial development. Clearfield County is moving in this direction with the development of the Clearfield County Technology Park on a former brownfield site.
- ✓ *Not surprisingly, coal mining has been a blessing and a curse for Clearfield County.* Through the years, the coal mining industry in Clearfield County has brought numerous people to the area, provided a livelihood for many, and generated substantial indirect economic impacts. Conversely, operations of the mines and abandonment of the mines have discharged acid into a number of waterways in the County. Abatement has taken place or is underway for some of these waterways, but it is costly. Additionally, many of the strip mines have scarred the landscape and the property is difficult to reuse.
- ✓ *Clearfield County residents are concerned about their water quality, but are also patient.* County residents have to be patient; generations of effort have gone into harvesting the coal located in this County. During much of this time, there were no regulations in place to protect the waterways from the acid mine discharge that resulted from coal mining operations. Additionally, the Allegheny Front in Clearfield County suffers from heavy loads of acid rain and acid deposition from industrialized areas in Pennsylvania and surrounding states. Much of this acid rain is deposited in the northern tier of the County. Much effort has gone into controlling emissions and curbing mine discharge as well as reclaiming local streams. These efforts are paying off. In the past few years, several sections of Clearfield County's streams have been added to the list of waters supporting trout fishing.

- ✓ *Clearfield County is challenged by an aging housing stock. Over 37% of the housing stock in the County was built before 1940. This is considerably above the state average where 30% of the housing stock was built before 1940. Aged housing stock can be more expensive to own and maintain than newer homes. It can also detract prospective residents and businesses from locating in the area. Additionally, Clearfield County has a higher percentage of mobile homes than two-thirds of the counties in the state.*

### **Land Use Planning Activities**

- ✓ *The majority of Clearfield County's municipalities are not using the more common planning tools of comprehensive planning and zoning. Seventeen of Clearfield County's municipalities have adopted a comprehensive or a multi-municipal plan. This is only a third of the County's 51 municipalities. Also, some of the comprehensive plans are rather old (four were adopted in 1984 or earlier). While the number of municipalities with comprehensive plans is rather limited, some have joined together to comprehensively plan. Even fewer municipalities have adopted a zoning ordinance. Seven of the County's municipalities are using a zoning ordinance to manage growth and development.*
- ✓ *On the other hand, all of Clearfield County's municipalities are guided by a subdivision and land development ordinance (SALDO). Nineteen municipalities have adopted their own SALDO. The other 32 municipalities are covered by the County's SALDO. In this situation, the County's Planning Commission reviews subdivision and land development applications submitted in these municipalities.*

## **ELK COUNTY**

### **Location**

Elk County has common borders with Clearfield and Jefferson Counties to the south, Forest County to the west, McKean County to the north, and Cameron County to the east. The County is predominantly rural, although a recent merger between St. Mary's Borough and Benzinger Township created a third-class city with the largest land area of any of Pennsylvania's third class cities. Elk County has nine townships, two boroughs, and one third-class city. The Borough of Ridgway is the county seat, and it is a substantial employment and services center for residents of this rural county.



*Ridgway, Elk County*

### **Population Trends**

Elk County's population as reported by the 2000 U.S. Census was 35,112 ranking Elk County 60<sup>th</sup> of 67 counties in the state. With an average of 42.4 people per square mile, Elk County ranks 61st in population density. Its land area is just under 829 square miles. From 1990 to 2000, Census figures showed a population gain of 0.7%. However, U.S. Census estimates for 2007 project a 7.13% decline in the county's

population between 2000 and 2007, with an estimated population of 32,610 persons. With this estimated population, Elk County currently ranks 59<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

Elk County had a total of 18,115 housing units in 2000. The County experienced a 5.0% increase in housing supply from 1990 to 2000. During the same period, the number of households grew by 7.6%; however, the average size of a household in Elk County decreased by 7.6%, the second greatest decrease in size of household in the state.

### *Existing Land Use Conditions*

Approximately 94% of the County's total land is undeveloped, with about 93.6% of this land devoted to forest and agricultural uses.

Elk County is located in Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains region. Elk and Cameron County to the east are the primary location of Pennsylvania's only wild elk herd, from which the County derived its name. A significant amount of the County's land area is state or federal forested land, state park, or game land.

Immigrants from Baltimore and Philadelphia settled the County in 1787. Although the citizens established farms, by the late 19th century it had become apparent that the County was not going to prosper agriculturally. In succeeding years, the County's economy evolved from logging, lumber and mining, to a carbon graphite or powder metals manufacturing base. Elk County is the center of the largest concentration of powder metals firms in the United States. Although some firms are sizeable with the latest in sophisticated production equipment, including robotics and CAD/CAM, many are small shops which retain some manually operated equipment. Recent offshore competition for equipment contracts has resulted in a loss of business and employment among the County's powder metal firms. Other manufacturing plants located in the County are no longer locally owned, and are perceived as being less interested in local civic involvement.

U.S. Route 219 (north-south) has been the dominant highway artery and transportation concern for two decades. Presently, it is a two-lane highway with significant logging, coal, and other truck traffic. Long-standing advocacy groups in the region would like to see Route 219 enlarged to four lanes, from central Cambria County north to Buffalo, NY. State Route 255, a much smaller two-lane highway from St. Mary's to DuBois, is the only other nearly countywide route out of the region, and connects to I-80 (east-west).

According to the Census of Agriculture, in 1997 Elk County had 145 farms, ranking it 61st in the state in the number of farms. The average size of an Elk County farm is 118 acres. Average income per farm was \$14,221, which ranks it 65th among Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

- ✓ *There are pockets of demand for rural lots in Benezette Township.* These are now resort types of homes built in a remote area by individuals wanting more land and lower density. These houses are located near a more recent tourist attraction, Elk County's elk herd. This had been predominantly a retirement community, and these residents are concerned about the growing level of tourist traffic on township roads.
- ✓ *Housing first built as somewhat isolated vacation or second homes is now being winterized.* With additional homes increasing density sufficiently to make such areas housing subdivisions, there is increasing demand for infrastructure and other municipal services. Local governments lack financial capacity to build or extend infrastructure and provide other services, and construction on old strip mine soil is not well served by on-lot water and sewage disposal.

- ✓ *A pattern of the use of eminent domain in some areas of the County has resulted in the taking of privately owned parcels to facilitate development of 'big-box' retail, including grocery chains. Those who have noted this pattern are concerned that it will accelerate the demise of downtown retail, and that it may not meet the criterion of "highest and best land use."*
- ✓ *Specialized agricultural land uses, such as wineries, are becoming increasingly popular in Elk County. Wineries, for example, are well suited to the County's glaciated topography and benefit from the region's tourism industry.*

#### ***Land Use Planning Activities***

- ✓ *The County's comprehensive plan was adopted in 1999, and it is responsive to recent amendments of the Municipalities Planning Code. Currently, seven of Elk County's twelve municipalities have municipal comprehensive plans, eight have municipal subdivision and land development ordinances, and four have municipal zoning ordinances. The availability of additional technical assistance in updating these plans and ordinances, and drafting plans and ordinances for additional municipalities requesting them would make land management and development opportunities more consistent throughout the County. At present, the County lacks countywide zoning.*
- ✓ *Elk County has prepared a countywide subdivision and land development ordinance, effective October 2003.*
- ✓ *Much of the County's planning activity is conducted in coordination with other functional planning efforts. The County planning office participates with the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission for transportation planning. Watershed planning is integrated into the planning and subdivision plans and ordinances. Economic development planning is integrated with the County comprehensive plan and is a responsibility assigned to the County Planning Commission.*

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

### *Location*

Jefferson County is situated among the scenic forests of northern Pennsylvania. It is bordered by the counties of Forest, Elk, Clearfield, Indiana, Armstrong, and Clarion. This peaceful, rural county comes to life every winter when Punxsutawney Phil, a groundhog, prognosticates on the length of winter. In addition to Punxsutawney, there are 10 other boroughs in the County, and 23 townships. Brookville is the county seat.



*Punxsutawney, Jefferson County*

### *Population Trends*

Jefferson County has a population of 45,932, according to the 2000 Census. This is a drop of 0.3% since the 1990 Census. 2007 U.S. Census estimates project the County has lost an additional 1.74% of the population, lowering it to 45,135 persons. With this population Jefferson County ranks 49<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Jefferson County's land area comprises 655 square miles. The resultant population density was about 70 persons per square mile in 2000.

### **Existing Land Use Conditions**

Jefferson County's rural setting is reflected by its current land use conditions where approximately 90.4% of the County's total land area is undeveloped. The majority of the undeveloped land area is devoted to forest and agricultural uses.

Jefferson County is blanketed with forests and pristine mountain streams and rivers that flow among the woodlands. The southern part of the County has a rolling landscape and is dotted with Amish farms. Development only accounts for 9.6% of the total land use. The County contains several coal basins, but only a few are workable and productive.

The forests, rivers, and coal basins have shaped the County's history. In the early 1800s, lumbering was the primary industry in the County. The Clarion and Allegheny Rivers carried lumber to Pittsburgh and treasured goods back to the County. By the end of the 1800's lumbering was waning, but the coal industry was huge. Coal mining companies imported workers to the region to extract the coal. Coals mines were worked out by the Great Depression. Since then, Jefferson County's economy has been recovering and reestablishing itself in manufacturing and service-related industries. Tourism, especially outdoor tourism, has been on the rise in the region thanks to State parks and game lands, the beautiful forests, and clear running streams. Quaint towns, Amish-made crafts and, of course, Phil, the prognosticating groundhog, also attract visitors to the County. In addition, Interstate 80 greatly impacts the County, bringing people and goods to and from the area.

### *Key Land Use Issues*

- ✓ *Jefferson County's economy is based heavily on the manufacturing sector.* This sector employs approximately 26% of Jefferson County's workforce, compared to the state where about 15% of the workforce is engaged in the manufacturing sector. While this sector tends to have better wages than the wholesale and retail trades, transportation, warehousing, and hospitality services, it is

also more volatile. This sector is quick to reflect a recession and translate this into job losses. For instance, in 1992 when the state had an unemployment rate of 7.6%, Jefferson County experienced a 10.3 % unemployment rate. In 1998 when the state had a 4.6% unemployment rate, Jefferson County saw 7.0% of their workforce unemployed.

- ✓ *Compared with most other Pennsylvania counties, Jefferson County has experienced only a modest decline in farmland between 1987 and 1997.* Between the 1987 and 1997, the Census of Agriculture recorded a loss of 4,830 acres of farmland (5.7%) in the County. Some of this land was lost to housing construction. The County increased its housing stock by 4.1%, or 862 units, during the 1990s even though it lost population during this decade. Forests covered 62% of the County's land area in 1997. It is not known if this percentage has increased or decreased since that assessment.
- ✓ *Jefferson County's communities are in need of infrastructure repair and expansion.* Over the past decade, municipalities in Jefferson County have been receiving grant funding to repair, replace, and expand various water, sewer, and storm water facilities. Some of this work was badly needed to correct such problems as the discharge of untreated wastewater into waterways. Other work entails the expansion of water treatment lines and services to keep up with development. Still other work has been accomplished to replace deteriorated lines and system components for the aged infrastructure.
- ✓ *Water quality is a significant concern in Jefferson County.* There are two main sources of water pollution in the County: acid mine drainage and what is referred to as "wildcat" sewage discharge. There are approximately 10,000 acres of abandoned strip mines within the County. Some of these mines are leaching acid and other pollutants into nearby waterways. Also "wildcat" sewer lines, illegal pipes that connect a building to a stream, are polluting the waterways. These are difficult to pinpoint. Inflow and infiltration is also a problem in the County, but infrastructure projects are gradually remedying this problem.

### ***Land Use Planning Activities***

- ✓ *Some of Jefferson County's municipalities have comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances, but these appear to have been adopted prior to 1986.* Fifteen of the County's 34 municipalities have adopted comprehensive plans, but only six have a zoning ordinance. It appears that most of these planning tools were enacted between 1965 and 1985. The County completed an update to its comprehensive plan in 2009.
- ✓ *To encourage businesses to locate in Jefferson County, 16 Keystone Opportunity Zone sites have been established.* Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ) are zones or sites where state and local taxes are reduced or abated for approximately 10 years for the businesses that locate in these zones. Sixteen such sites have been set up in the County. They range from a 257-acre greenfield site to a 15-acre downtown tract.

## McKEAN COUNTY

### *Location*

McKean County is situated about 2,000 feet above sea level in the Appalachian Mountain Plateau known as the Alleghenies. It is bordered by Elk and Cameron Counties to the south, Warren County to the west, the New York state border to the north, and by Potter County to the east. McKean County is rural in character. It has 15 townships, six boroughs, and one city. The Borough of Smethport is the county seat. The City of Bradford is the primary employment and services center for the County.



*Smethport, McKean County*

### *Population Trends*

McKean County's boundaries contain 982 square miles, the 11th largest county in Pennsylvania. The County's population of 45,936 ranks it 47th among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. With an average of 14.6 people per square mile, the County ranks 59th. The statewide average for population density was 274 people per square mile. From 1990 to 2000, McKean County's population decreased by 2.5%, placing the County in 61st position among the state's 67 counties. 2007 U.S. Census population estimates project an additional decline in the county's population of 5.0% resulting in a 2007 population estimate of 43,633 residents.

With 21,644 housing units, McKean County ranked 49th. The County had an average of 22 housing units per square mile, placing it in 59th position among the 67 counties. Statewide, there were 117 housing units per square mile. From 1990 to 2000, the number of housing units in McKean County grew by 0.9%, ranking 63rd in rate of increase in housing units. The number of households increased by 1.0%, ranking McKean County in 61st position among Pennsylvania's counties. According to 1997 estimates in the 2000 Census, 13.7% of residents in the County were below the poverty line, the 11th highest number among the 67 counties. Statewide, 10.9% of Pennsylvania residents were below the poverty line during the same period.

The median age of County residents was 38.7 years, ranking McKean County 35th place in ascending order of median age. Statewide, the average Pennsylvanian was 38.0 years old. The percentage of the labor force which worked outside McKean County was 18.4%, the 11th lowest number among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The statewide average for workers commuting to another county was 27.6%.

### *Existing Land Use Conditions*

Approximately 94% of the County's total land is undeveloped, with about 92.9% of this land devoted to forest and agricultural uses. McKean County is wooded with the Appalachian Mountains, pristine creeks and streams, and clear mountain lakes. The geography is mountainous with high peaks and deep valleys. The Allegheny National Forest and Kinzua Bridge State Park are the major outdoor tourist attractions within the County. Prominent industries in McKean County include high-quality hardwood lumber, oil and natural gas, agriculture, glass and powder metal industries, Zippo lighters, Case knives, and cable communications.

With 209 farms, McKean County ranks 58<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Statewide, the average Pennsylvania county has 678 farms. The total amount of agricultural land in McKean County was 39,000 acres, 56<sup>th</sup>, statewide. The average Pennsylvania county has 107,045 acres of agricultural land. The average annual income per farm in McKean County was \$20,483, ranking the County in 63<sup>rd</sup> position among the 67 counties. Statewide, the average income per farm is \$87,942.

McKean County is considering the establishment of an agricultural conservation easement purchase program. The County has established one agricultural security area of over 1,000 acres in Keating Township near Smethport. Currently, the County does not track conversion of agricultural land. The amount and rate of agricultural land conversion to date has been minimal.

Few new major subdivisions have been developed in McKean County, and in general, there has not been much new construction. Generally, the County Planning Commission reviews an average of 76.8 subdivision plans per year. Approximately 75% of those reviewed contain only one lot and are considered minor subdivisions. There is considerable demand for mobile home sites.

McKean County has an excellent airport facility. Route 219 is the major north-south route through the County. It needs to be expanded from two to four lanes to relieve congestion and to improve traffic flow presently impeded by slow-moving, heavy logging and coal trucks. Route 219 has been the focus of the former Route 219 Association, now renamed Continental One, for the better part of two decades.

### ***Key Land Use Issues***

- ✓ *Incompatible land uses have been identified by the County Planning Commission as a primary issue. An example is the recent location near a residential district of a firm that removes butane and methane from pipeline gas. The firm's operations resulted in property owners complaining about noise and odor problems from the facility.*
- ✓ *Improvements to Route 219 are being made to reduce congestion, enhance safety and capacity of the County's major north-south corridor, and to make the County more accessible from I-17 just over the New York state border.*
- ✓ *Watershed planning requirements. In 2003, a group of concerned citizens formed the Tunungwant Watershed Association to pursue improving the water quality of the Tunungwant Creek.*
- ✓ *Recreational planning is actively being performed for the Bradford area (Tuna Valley Trail Association, which has merged with the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association) and Lafayette Township (Kinzua Valley Trail Club) and in the Smethport area by the Potato Creek Trails Association.*
- ✓ *The spirit of inter-government cooperation is growing in McKean County as multi-municipal comprehensive plans have been prepared for the City of Bradford, Bradford, Foster and Lafayette Townships, and Lewis Run Borough.*

## POTTER COUNTY

### *Location*

Potter County is surrounded to the south by Clinton and Cameron Counties, to the west by McKean County, by the New York state line to the north, and by Tioga County to the east. Predominantly rural in character, Potter County has 30 municipalities: 24 townships, and six boroughs. The county seat is the Borough of Coudersport, and it is both a services center for the County and a major employment center. Galeton and Shinglehouse Boroughs are two additional core communities.



*Coudersport, Potter County*

### *Population Trends*

Potter County's population in 2000, as reported by the U.S. Census, of 18,080 was the 5th lowest population among Pennsylvania counties. With its land area of 1,081 square miles, Potter County has the 6th largest land area. Its population density is an average of 16.7 people per square mile, making the County the 4th most sparsely populated in Pennsylvania. The 2007 U.S. Census estimates project an additional decline in the county's population of 6.0%, estimating the county's population is 18,066 persons.

From 1990 to 2000, Census figures indicate that the population of Potter County grew by 8.2% , the 16<sup>th</sup> fastest rate of population growth in the state. Potter County's 12,159 housing units comprise the 7th smallest number of housing units in the State. From 1990 to 2000, the County experienced a 7.3% growth in housing units, the 36th largest level of housing unit growth among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The number of households in Potter County increased by 12.2%, the 16th most rapid rate of increase. The size of an average household in the County decreased by 3.4%, the 15th smallest rate of decrease statewide.

The median age of Potter County residents was 39.1 years, the 38th highest median age among residents of the 67 counties. Statewide, the average median age is 38.0 years. According to 1997 estimates in the 2000 Census, 14.5% of County residents were below the poverty line, the 7th highest percentage among the 67 counties. Statewide, the average percentage is 10.9%.

The percentage of County residents with a bachelor's degree or higher was 12.3%, the 19th lowest percentage statewide. The statewide average is 22.4%. The percentage of County residents working outside the County was 25.9%, the 26th lowest percentage among the 67 counties.

High-speed Internet is available in Coudersport, but not elsewhere in Potter County. The North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission has each of the North Central counties on a schedule for design work for a broadband access network. Potter County has a countywide telecommunications task force. The County's interest in broadband access is focused upon expansion of educational opportunities and upon business development in such areas as Internet-based supply chain management.

### ***Existing Land Use Conditions***

The majority (97.2%) of Potter County's total land is undeveloped, with a majority of this land devoted to forest and agricultural uses. Potter County is located in the Appalachian Mountain Plateau, known as the Alleghenies. The County is situated about 2,000 feet above sea level, and offers the great natural beauty of vast tracts of woodlands, streams, and wildlife. Along with other counties in north central Pennsylvania, Potter County is known for high-quality stands of hardwood, deposits of oil and natural gas, and some agriculture.

With 292 farms, Potter County ranks 54<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The average Pennsylvania county has approximately 678 farms. Its 83,000 acres of agricultural land places the County in 42<sup>nd</sup> position statewide. The average county in Pennsylvania has 107,045 acres of agricultural land. The size of an average farm in Potter County is 286 acres, the largest average farm size of any county in Pennsylvania. The size of an average farm, statewide, is 158 acres. The average annual earnings per farm in Potter County is \$67,740, the 28th highest level of earnings among Pennsylvania counties. The statewide average is \$87,942 per farm annually.

Potter County has just initiated an Agricultural Preservation Program of farmland easement purchases, administered by the Conservation District. USDA data for the end of 2002 indicates that one 205-acre farm has been purchased. This places Potter County's agricultural easement purchasing program in 20th position statewide. The average cost per acre for an agricultural easement in Potter County was \$800, ranking the County in 43rd position. At \$224,255, Potter County's initial investment in agricultural easements places the County in 48th position among the 67 counties.

The primary highway corridors: U.S. Routes 6 (east-west) and 449 (north-south), State Routes 49 (NE to SW), 449 (north-south), and 872 (north-south). These corridors, especially Route 6, have attracted some development, resulting in conversion of open space, but not enough to threaten the continuation of an adequate supply of open space. With the exception of Coudersport and development generated by former Adelpia Communications, most of Potter County boroughs are not extensively built up. Thus, new development generally locates in or adjacent to existing boroughs, leveraging smart growth policy. During Adelpia's high-growth stage, the Coudersport area gained over eight percent in population as Adelpia created approximately 1,300 higher wage jobs. However, since the demise of Adelpia those jobs also disappeared.

Rapid housing development construction occurred in townships surrounding Coudersport, such as Allegheny, Hebron, Eulalia, Sweden, Homer and Summit, receiving extensive private residential housing investment. This resulted in a substantial amount of farmland conversion.

### ***Key Land Use Issues***

- ✓ *Incompatible land uses:* The County receives complaints about the accumulation of refuse and junk on some properties, but lacks authority to act upon the complaints. The County does not have a zoning ordinance, but does have a subdivision and land development ordinance. In 2007 the County's comprehensive plan was updated.
- ✓ *Financial problems lead to the demise of the Adelpia Communications Corporation.* The relocation of Adelpia's home base was instrumental in generating growth, but as many as 2,000 jobs were lost when Adelpia closed. Prior to the growth of the County's major employer,

Adelphia Communications Corporation, there was a clear need for additional low- to moderate-income housing. During Adelphia's peak growth period, the rate of construction of attractive, market rate housing greatly increased. With the loss of employment from Adelphia, it is expected that the need for low- to moderate-income housing will reappear.

***Land Use Planning Activities***

- ✓ *Watershed planning.* The Pine Creek Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan was completed in 2005, and Currently, plans are underway for three watersheds by their respective advocacy groups: the Genesee Headwaters Watershed Group, which is using Growing Greener funds for an assessment of point and nonpoint pollution sources up to the New York state line; and the Allegheny River Group, which is about to begin its activities.
- ✓ The County Comprehensive Plan, was updated in 2007.
- ✓ *Rewriting the county subdivision and land development ordinance* to include water protection areas.
- ✓ *A countywide plan for protection of water resources*, including a plan for each municipal water system in the County.

# Chapter 2:

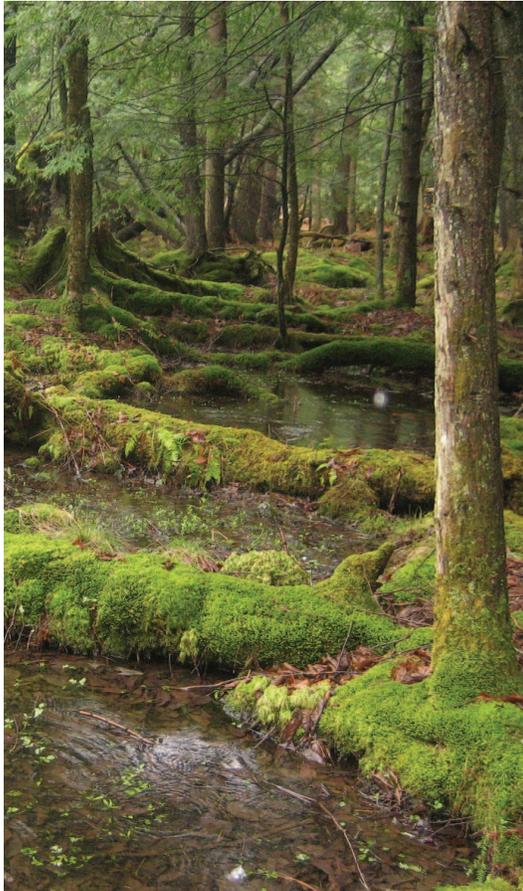
## Where Do We Want to Be?



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## **A VISION FOR GREENWAYS OF NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**



*Kinzua Valley Trail, McKean County*

### **Greenways of North Central Pennsylvania**

A greenway is a corridor of open space. Greenways vary greatly in scale, from narrow ribbons of green that run through rural, suburban, and urban areas to wider corridors that incorporate diverse natural, cultural and scenic features. They may follow old railways, canals, or ridge tops, or they may follow stream corridors, shorelines, or wetlands, and include water trails.

Some greenways are for recreation and transportation activities and may accommodate motorized and non-motorized uses on land and water. Other greenways conserve natural infrastructure for the benefit of community, economy, and environment; and may or may not be designed for human passage.

Greenways will not take away the rights of property owners, nor will they restrict development in the region. Instead, the greenway network will promote sustainable development, reduce development costs, and reduce the burden of providing public services on local, county, and state governments.

Through this planning process the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Steering Committee established the following goals for greenways within the region:

*GOALS FOR GREENWAYS IN NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA*

- Greenways will be multi-purpose in nature, providing opportunities for both water and land based trails, and also promoting stormwater management functions; water quality improvement; as well as, hunting and fishing opportunities through associated natural system greenway corridors.
- Greenways must draw people into towns which can provide visitors and residents with the goods and services they desire, thus making a positive impact on the regional and local economies.
- Greenways will be regional in nature, making inter-county connections, and local connections between towns.
- Greenways will help to promote and market trail opportunities.
- Greenways must enhanced bike lanes and corridors, paved and widen shoulders along state highways.
- Greenways must include equestrian trails.
- Greenways should include and respond to the region's need for a truly regional ATV trail network.
- Greenways should enhance and expand the region's snowmobile trail system.
- Greenways should capitalize on unique features or tourist destinations such as the Triple Divide in Potter County.
- Greenways will assist in maintaining the character of region.
- Greenways will promote environmental education and interpretation.
- Greenways should be recognized as environmentally sensitive areas and take them into consideration when natural resource extraction and utility development activities are being planned in the region.

## THE STRUCTURE OF THE NETWORK

Building the framework of the greenway network began with laying out the natural systems greenways corridors. These corridors follow the most highly functional existing natural features within the region, such as: forests, significant stream corridors, and wildlife habitat. Overlaying this natural systems backdrop, the plan adopts a “hubs and spokes” structure for its recreation and transportation greenways. Pennsylvania’s Plan entitled Pennsylvania’s Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections describes the product of this overlay method as follows:

“Pennsylvania’s greenways network will ultimately take the form of “hubs and spokes.” The “hubs” of the network will be the state’s parks, forests, game lands, lakes, and other destinations, including our towns. The “spokes” of the network will be greenways – connecting our natural areas and recreational and cultural destinations with the places where we live. The landscape connections that will result throughout Pennsylvania will create “green infrastructure” of open space vital to the health of Pennsylvania’s ecological systems and human communities.”



The “hubs,” sometimes called nodes, are the significant destination points such as trail towns and important recreation areas. The spokes, or corridors, will provide the links between them. In some areas, natural systems corridors are distinct from recreation and transportation greenways; in other cases, they coincide. Finally, because streams, wildlife habitats, state parks, and some recreation and transportation trails do not terminate at the counties’ boundaries, the greenways network proposes that recreation and transportation corridors continue outward and form connections to natural and recreational assets in neighboring counties and states.

A detailed inventory and analysis was completed as part of the greenway planning process for the North Central Pennsylvania region. Through this work, greenway corridors were identified and prioritized. The proposed greenway network for the North Central Region consists of Recreation and Transportation Greenways as well as Natural Systems Greenways.



## **TRAIL TOWNS, MAJOR HUBS, AND HUBS**

As recommended in “PA Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections” the North Central Pennsylvania Greenway system will be anchored by hubs. Potential hubs were identified by the project steering committee as well as through the public input process. Common greenway hubs can include:

- **Natural Areas:** These include large blocks of publicly owned open space such as national and state forests, parks, game lands, and conservation areas that serve to protect important ecological landscapes and natural features, preserve scenic vistas, provide habitat for wildlife, protect water resources and provide recreational opportunities.
- Regional and local parks, preserves and ecological sites may also serve as hubs.
- **Cultural, Historic and Recreational Sites:** Community parks or cultural/historic sites that protect and interpret Pennsylvania’s heritage also may be incorporated into the greenways network as destinations or “hubs.”
- **Urban and Suburban Areas:** On a statewide or regional level, cities and towns can serve as origins or destinations within the greenways network. Within urban and suburban areas, opportunities abound to connect neighborhoods, schools, work places, recreation facilities, natural areas and parks through greenways. A greenways network also can incorporate former industrial sites, or brownfields, and spur the creation of new green space.

Through the public process potential hubs were identified throughout the North Central region, including: main street communities, state parks, regional recreation areas, and regional cultural and historic assets.

In the North Central region the concept of hubs is further refined to include:

- Trail Towns
- Major Hubs
- Hubs

## **DEFINING TRAIL TOWNS, MAJOR HUBS, AND HUBS**

The goal of recreation and transportation greenways in the north central Pennsylvania region is to attract and invite every trail user to the main street districts, where they can find the goods and services they need, while spending money in the region’s towns.

In 2005, the Allegheny Trail Alliance published “Trail Towns – Capturing Trail Based Tourism, a Guide for Pennsylvania Communities.” The development of this guide was funded by the Regional Trail Alliance and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The guide provides step-by-step guidance in preparing a blueprint to provide goods and services required by trail users and promoting trail-friendly towns.

These steps include:

- Enticing trail users to get off the trail and into your town
- Welcoming trail users to your town by making information about the community readily available at the trail
- Making a strong and safe connection between your town and the trail
- Educating local businesses on the economic benefits of meeting the needs of trail tourists
- Recruiting new businesses or expand existing ones to fill gaps in the goods or services that trail users need
- Promoting the “trail-friendly” character of the town
- Working with neighboring communities to promote the entire trail corridor as a tourist destination

### TRAIL TOWN, MAJOR HUB, AND HUB CRITERIA

To be considered as a potential trail town, the project steering committee recommended that the proposed trail towns be able to provide at least three of the four following goods and or services:

- Main Street
- Food
- Lodging
- Fuel

Those destinations that could provide two of the four components are classified as major hubs, and the remainder were classified as hubs. Utilizing this approach above locations were classified as follows:

#### *Cameron County*

- Emporium ..... Trail Town
- Driftwood..... Major Hub
- Sinnemahoning ..... Major Hub
- Sizerville State Park..... Hub
- Sinnemahoning State Park ..... Hub



*Emporium, Cameron County*

**Clearfield County**

- DuBois ..... Trail Town
- Clearfield..... Trail Town
- Curwensville ..... Trail Town
- Curwensville Lake ..... Hub
- Grampian ..... Trail Town
- Philipsburg ..... Trail Town
- Coalport ..... Trail Town
- Houtzdale ..... Hub
- Mahaffey ..... Major Hub
- Penfield ..... Major Hub
- Karthaus ..... Trail Town
- Bilgers Rocks ..... Hub
- S.B. Elliott State Park ..... Hub
- Parker Dam State Park ..... Hub
- Rock Run Recreation Area ..... Hub
- Camp Wopsononock  
Natural Area ..... Hub

**Elk County**

- Ridgway ..... Trail Town
- Benezette ..... Major Hub
- St. Marys ..... Trail Town
- Johnsonburg ..... Trail Town
- Wilcox ..... Trail Town
- Kersey ..... Hub
- Elk State Park – East  
Branch Dam ..... Hub
- Bendingo State Park ..... Hub
- Twin Lakes Recreation  
Area ..... Hub
- Allegheny National  
Forest Trails ..... Hub
- Lamont ..... Hub
- Russell City ..... Hub



Johnsonburg, Elk County

*Jefferson County*

- Brookville ..... Trail Town
- Brockway ..... Trail Town
- Falls Creek ..... Trail Town
- Punxsutawney ..... Trail Town
- Reynoldsville ..... Trail Town
- Summerville ..... Trail Town
- Sykesville ..... Major Hub
- Cook Forest State Park ..... Hub
- Clear Creek State Park ..... Hub
- Campers Paradise ..... Hub
- Farmers Inn ..... Hub
- Kyle Lake ..... Hub
- Cloe Lake ..... Hub
- Reynlow Park ..... Hub
- Beartown Rocks ..... Hub



*Brookville, Jefferson County*

*McKean County*

- Bradford ..... Trail Town
- Kane ..... Trail Town
- Mt. Jewett ..... Trail Town
- Smethport ..... Trail Town
- Eldred ..... Major Hub
- Port Allegany ..... Trail Town
- Allegheny National  
Forest / Kinzua Reservoir  
Facilities at Willow Bay ..... Hub
- Kinzua Bridge State Park ..... Hub
- McKean County Complex ..... Hub
- Hamlin Lake ..... Hub
- Westline ..... Major Hub
- University of Pittsburgh –  
Bradford ..... Major Hub
- Majestic Trails Resort ..... Hub
- Lantz's Corners ..... Trail Town
- ANF Ranger Station  
S.R. 321 ..... Hub



*Smethport, McKean County*

**Potter County**

- Austin..... Trail Town
- Coudersport..... Trail Town
- Cross Fork..... Trail Town
- Galeton..... Trail Town
- Ulysses ..... Major Hub
- Shinglehouse..... Trail Town
- Wharton ..... Major Hub
- Lumber Heritage Museum ..... Hub
- Triple Divide..... Hub
- Austin Dam..... Hub
- Denton Hill State Park..... Hub
- Cherry Springs State Park..... Hub
- Ole Bull State Park ..... Hub
- Lyman Run State Park ..... Hub
- Sinnemahoning State Park..... Hub
- Sizerville State Park..... Hub
- Patterson State Park ..... Hub
- Prouty Place State Park..... Hub



*E.O. Austin Home, Austin, Potter County*

**TRAIL TOWN PRIORITIZATION**

Proposed trail towns were then prioritized according to criteria developed by the project steering committee. The criteria included:

- Proximity of Existing / Proposed Trail(s) to Main Street: The closer the existing / proposed trail(s) are to main street the higher the assigned value.
- Number of Trail Connections: Cumulative value of the total number of existing / proposed recreation, transportation, and water trails which pass through town.
- Local Partners: Opportunities present to partner with government, non-profit, and for profit agencies to advance the trail town concept along main street.
- Economic Development Potential: Size, character, and vibrancy main street
- Association with North Central Community and Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) Core Systems

Each of the potential trail town corridors were assigned a value between zero and five in each of the categories, with the exception of being associated with a North Central Core System, which received a value of 10. The higher the value assigned to a given criteria, the more important contribution that criteria has towards the establishment of a trail town.

Four priority levels were established based on four equal intervals. They include:

- Proposed Vital Trail Towns
- Proposed Exceptional Trail Towns
- Proposed Significant Trail Towns
- Proposed High Priority Trail Towns

Once the regional rankings and prioritizations were completed the proposed trail towns were also ranked and prioritized in their respective counties.



*Marilla Bridges Trail, McKean County County*

# The North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan

## Trail Town Ranking and Prioritization

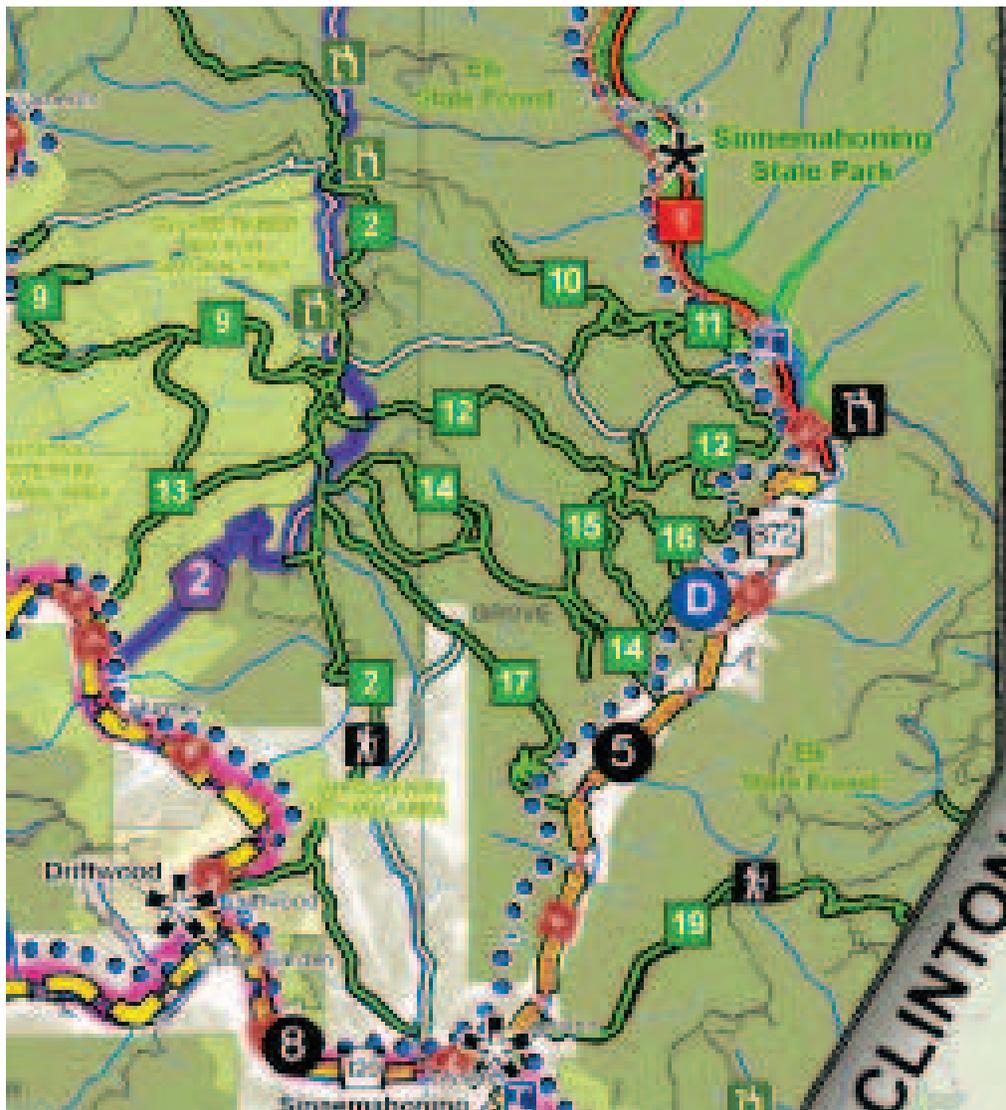
Potential Trail Towns	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Main Street	Food	Lodging	Fuel	Entertainment	Recreation	Historic Site(s)	Other Attraction(s)	Proximity of Trail to Main Street	No. of Trail Connections	Local Partners	Economic Development Potential	Association with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Regional Priority											
Bradford					X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	10	5	5	10	35	1	Vital											
Brookville				X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	7	5	5	10	32	2		Vital										
Emporium	X						X	X	X	X		X			5	5	5	5	10	30	3			Vital									
Ridgway Borough			X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	4	5	5	10	29	4				Vital								
City of St. Marys			X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	4	5	5	10	29	4					Vital							
Brockway				X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	5	5	3	10	28	5						Vital						
Coudersport						X	X	X	X	X	X	X			5	3	5	5	10	28	5							Vital					
Kane					X		X	X	X	X		X	X		5	2	5	5	10	27	6	Exceptional											
DuBois		X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	3	3	5	10	26	7		Exceptional										
Punxsutawney				X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	2	3	5	10	25	8			Exceptional									
Falls Creek				X				X	X	X		X			5	3	3	3	10	24	9				Exceptional								
Galeton						X	X	X	X	X		X			5	3	1	5	10	24	9					Exceptional							
Clearfield		X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	4	1	3	10	23	10						Exceptional						
Curwensville		X					X	X		X		X	X	X	3	4	3	3	10	23	10							Exceptional					
Port Allegany					X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	5	4	1	3	10	23	10								Exceptional				
Smethport					X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	7	5	5	0	22	11									Exceptional			
Reynoldsville				X			X	X		X					5	1	1	1	10	18	12										Exceptional		
Mt. Jewett					X		X	X		X			X		5	2	5	5	0	17	13											Exceptional	
Lantz's Corners					X			X	X	X					5	1	5	3	0	14	14												Significant
Austin						X	X	X				X	X		3	1	5	5	0	14	14												
Coalport		X					X	X	X	X			X	X	5	2	3	3	0	13	15	Significant											
Summerville				X				X	X	X				X	5	2	3	3	0	13	15		Significant										
Grampian		X					X	X		X		X	X		5	1	3	3	0	12	16			Significant									
Philipsburg		X					X	X	X	X	X		X		5	1	3	3	0	12	16				Significant								
Wilcox			X				X	X		X					2	1	5	3	0	11	17					Significant							
Cross Fork						X		X	X	X					3	2	1	2	0	8	18						Significant						
Shinglehouse						X		X	X	X					5	1	1	1	0	8	18							Significant					
Karthus		X						X	X	X					3	1	1	3	0	8	18								Significant				

## **BUILDING THE NETWORK – RECREATION AND TRANSPORTION**

### *EXISTING TRAILS*

Existing and potential recreation and transportation greenway corridors were inventoried and analyzed. Through this process, existing recreation and transportation greenways were documented, and recommendations were developed for expanding those offerings and prioritizing their implementation.

The first step in the process was to inventory and map the existing trails in the region. Generally existing snowmobile trails are not listed in the tables as most are unnamed. The trails on the following tables, along with the existing snowmobile trails, are shown on the regional and individual county Recreation and Transportation Greenways map.



CAMERON COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Sizerville Nature Trail	X				X				
Bucktail Path	X								
Wiley Trail	X						X		
Mowry Trail	X								
Chicago Springs Trail	X								
Hacket Trail	X								
Sand Springs Trail	X								
Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail			X						
Square Timber Trail	X								
Joe King Trail	X								
Phins Trail	X								
Ridge Trail	X								
Big Run Trail	X								
Lick Island Trail	X								
Game Refuge Trail	X								
Big Flat Trail	X								
Pepper Hill Trail	X								
Fred Woods Trail	X								
Donut Hole Trail	X								
Old Sinnemahoning Trail	X								
Quehanna Trail	X								
Foley Trail	X								
Sevinsky Trail	X								
Sanders Trail	X	X							
Jugs Springs Trail	X								
Gore Trails	X	X							
Red Run Trail	X								
Old Hoover Trail	X								
Meeker Trail	X								
Big Springs Draft Trail	X		X						
Sinnemahoning State Park Trail	X				X				
Elk State Forest Snowmobile Trails	X	X					X		
Sinnemahoning State Forest Snowmobile Trails	X	X					X		
State Game Lands No. 14 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 34 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

CLEARFIELD COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Houtzdale Line Rail Trail	X	X	X	X					
Dimeling to Madera Trail	X	X		X					
Clearfield to Grampian Trail	X	X		X					
Beaver Meadow Walkway Trail	X				X				
Parker Dam State Park Trails	X	X							
Rockton Mountain Trail System	X	X							
Overland Trail	X								
Old Horse Trail	X								
Rattlesnake Trail	X								
Doctors Fork Trail	X								
Lick Run Trail	X								
CPL Trail	X								
Big Ridge Trail	X								
Spur Line Trail	X								
Quehanna Trail	X								
West Cross Connector	X								
Quehanna Cut Off Trail	X								
Ginger Whiskey Trail	X								
East Cross Connector	X								
Mosquito Creek Trail	X								
Bellefonte Posse Trail	X	X							
Kunes Camp Trail	X								
Mowhawk Trail	X								
No. 5 Trail	X								
Reservoir Trail	X								
Lucas Run Trail	X								
Little Moyer Run Trail	X								
No. 11 Trail	X	X							
Old Sinnemahoning Trail	X								
Snow Shoe Trail	X	X				X			
State Game Lands No. 34 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 77 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 78 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 87 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 93 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 94 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 321 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

ELK COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Clarion - Little Toby Creek Trail	X	X		X					
Loleta Trail	X								
Little Drummer Historical Path Trail	X								
Laurel Hill Trail	X								
Timberline ATV Trail						X		X	
Marienville ATV Trail						X		X	
Twin Lakes Trail	X								
Shady Ridge Nature Trail	X				X				
Big Mill Creek Trail	X	X							
Brush Hollow Trail	X	X							
Quehanna Trail	X								
Mosquito Trail	X								
Marian Brooks Loop & Teaberry Trail	X								
Elk Trail	X	X	X	X					
Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail	X								
Pine Tree Trail	X								
Clermont Trail	X								
Shawmut Trail	X	X		X					
State Game Lands No. 14 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 25 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 28 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 44 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 311 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

JEFFERSON COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Clarion - Little Toby Creek Trail	X	X		X					
Mahoning Shadow Trail	X	X		X					
Baker Trail	X								
Wolf Creek Trail	X								
Tadler Run Trail	X								
Hunter Trail	X								
Bear Town Rocks Trail	X								
Clear Creek Trail	X								
Trap Run Trail	X								
Boundary Trail	X								
Pipeline Trail	X								

McKEAN COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
North Country Trail	X								
Longhouse Interpretive Trail	X				X				
Morrison Trail	X								
Johnny Cake Trail	X								
Tracey Ridge Trail	X								
Land of Many Uses Interpretive Trail	X				X				
Willow Creek ATV Trail						X		X	
Hidden Valley Passage	X								
Indian Pipe Trail	X	X							
Marilla Bridges Loop Trail	X	X							
White Pine Trail	X								
Marilla Springs Trail	X								
Timberdoodle Flats Trail	X								
Westline Trail	X	X		X					
Kinzua Valley Trail	X								
Devil's Den Trail	X								
Shawmut Trail	X	X	X	X			X		
Clermont Trail	X	X	X	X			X		
Kane to Mt. Jewett Trail via ANF							X		
Bradford Bordell & Kinzua Railroad Grade Trail	X	X	X	X					
Wolfinger Town Trail System	X	X	X						
Pennsy Grade Trail	X	X	X	X					
Majestic ATV Trails						X		X	
Crook Farm Trail	X	X							
Community Parks Trail	X	X							
Richard E. McDowell Community Trail	X	X							
Emery-Blaisdell Trail	X	X							
Thunder Shower Surprise	X	X							
State Game Lands No. 30 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					
State Game Lands No. 61 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					
State Game Lands No. 62 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					

POTTER COUNTY'S EXISTING TRAIL CORRIDORS

Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Sizerville Nature Trail	X				X				
Nady Hollow Trail	X								
Bucktail Path Trail	X								
Chicago Springs Trail	X								
Big Fill Hollow Trail	X								
Commissioner Run Trail	X	X							
Buckseller Run Trail	X								
Storey Trail	X								
Crowell Hollow Trail	X								
S.T.S. Trail	X	X				X	X		
Billy Brown Trail	X								
Twin Sisters Trail	X								
Beehive Trail	X					X	X		
Big Springs Ridge Trail	X								
Black Forest Trail	X								
Clinton Run Trail	X								
Captain Shelton Trail	X					X	X		
Susquehannock State Forest Snowmobile Trails							X		
State Game Lands No. 59 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 64 Designated Use Trails	X		X						



## **IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS**

Once the existing trails and potential hubs were inventoried and mapped, opportunities for potential trails were evaluated. Potential trail opportunities were identified by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either railbanked or in the process of being railbanked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- **Conceptual:** Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- **Proposed:** Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. In Chapter 3 we will provide recommendations and implementation strategies for evaluating ownership issues, and the potential to secure corridors for public access.

## THE PROCESS

After the potential trail corridors were identified the steering committee developed the following criteria by which each corridor was rated. The cumulative value of all criteria was utilized to determine the priority for a particular trail corridor. Criteria included:

- Trail Type: Regional trail has high value, county wide trail has moderate value, and connector trail has a lower value.
- Existing Trail Group Support: If an existing trail group supports and advocates for implementation of the proposed corridor the higher the value.
- Corridor Status:
  - a. Railbanked/Corridor Secured:..... Significant Value
  - b. Inactive: ..... High Value
  - c. Abandoned: ..... Medium Value
  - d. Active/no railbed associated ..... :Low Value
- Trail Demand: The degree of public support for the project and anticipated use of the trail. The greater the public support for a project and / or the greater the anticipated use of the trail, the higher the value.
- Land Acquisition: Trail concepts that require land acquisition to complete, receive less value because the project would not be feasible if land acquisition is not completed.
  - a. Donations / Low Cost:..... Significant Value
  - b. Associated with Regional Trail: ..... High Value
  - c. Medium Cost:..... Medium Value
  - d. High Cost / Not Available: ..... Valuable
- Connectivity: The degree to which the trail connects to existing greenways or destination points or to on-road or pedestrian facilities. The greater the connectivity, the higher the value.
  - a. Regional Trail:..... Significant Value –a part of a regional trail system recognized by PA DCNR
  - b. Direct Extension:..... High Value - of existing trail and/or a spur directly into a destination center
  - c. Real Potential: ..... Medium Value - to connect to existing opportunities
  - d. Stand Alone Trail:..... Valuable
- Benefits to the Public: The total number of recreation, transportation, education, and other benefits that can be derived by the public from the project. The greater the number of benefits, the higher the value.

- **Funding Opportunity / Partnering:** Considering the factors affecting the project’s funding status and the degree to which the project may allocate funds from a variety of agencies. The greater the funding opportunities, the higher the value.
- **Economic Development Potential:** Trails that connect to proposed trail towns will have the greatest potential to impact the local economy.

Each of the conceptual and proposed recreation and transportation corridors were assigned a value between zero and five in each of the categories, with the exception of being associated with a North Central Core System, which received a value of 10.

## **THE RESULTS**

This analysis led to the recommendation of establishing 71 recreation and transportation greenway corridors within the six county North Central Pennsylvania region. These corridors are of regional and county significance. A local corridor, at the municipal level, may further expand the proposed corridors.

The 71 corridors recommended herein are summarized as follows according to their corresponding priority at the regional level. Recommendations for implementing the proposed recreation and transportation greenways will follow later in this document.

## **REGIONAL RANKING AND PRIORITIZATION**

Recreation and Transportation Greenway corridors were ranked according to their total value resulting from the analysis described above. The higher the value assigned to a given criterion, the more important contribution that criterion has towards the establishment of a recreation and transportation trail within the specified corridor. Once ranked, the corridors were then prioritized into four categories. These categories were determined by dividing the ranked results into the following categories based on the natural breaks in the total values.

<i>Priorities</i>	<i>No.</i>
1. Vital Priority .....	7
2. Exceptional Priority .....	22
3. Significant Priority .....	18
4. High Priority .....	24

The descriptions, on the following pages, describe each of the conceptual and proposed trail corridor indicate the location, length, connectivity and highlights of each Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridor proposed for the North Central region.



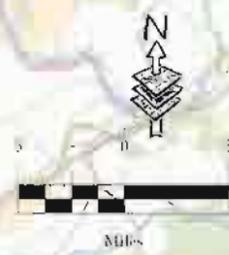
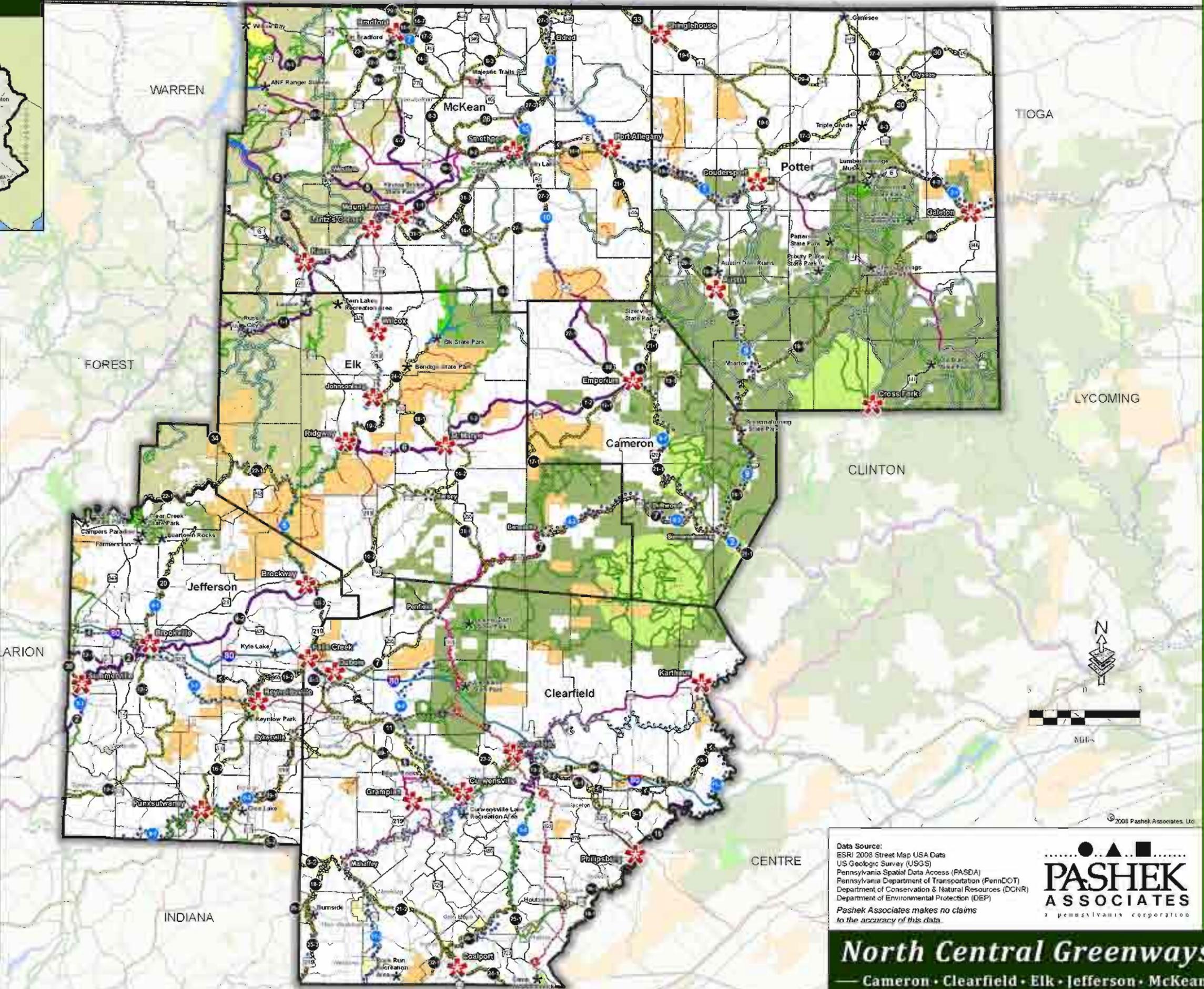
*Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail, Cameron County*

# Location Map



## Legend

- Base Map Features**
  - County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
  - Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
- DCNR Managed Land**
  - State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
  - State Forest Wild & Natural Areas
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
  - Hiking
  - Existing
  - Existing State Game Land Trail
  - Existing Snowmobile
  - Proposed
  - Conceptual
  - Existing Water Trail
  - Proposed Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Scenic Byway
  - Bicycle PA Route
- Points of Interest**
  - Trail Town
  - Major Hub
  - Hub



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
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# North Central Pennsylvania Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

## North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

ARMSTRONG

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## PROPOSED VITAL PRIORITY RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

The proposed vital priority recreation and transportation greenway corridors complete critical gaps in a regional trail network and focus planning, acquisition, design, and construction, as well as funding resources, to implement projects.

- 1-1) Knox Kane Trail** – Elk and McKean Counties: The Knox Kane Trail follows the former KKRR(P&W), Knox & Kane Railroad (Pittsburgh & Western Railroad), corridor that runs from Knox, in Clarion County, to Kane and then on to Kinzua Bridge State Park via Mount Jewett, in McKean County. The entire corridor length is approximately 70 miles.

This corridor is in the process of being railbanked by Kovalchick Family Trust. McKean County has taken the lead on applying for DCNR funding to complete a Trail Feasibility Study on the corridor.

This trail passes through Russell City and Lamont in Elk County as well as Kane and Mount Jewett in McKean County.

Approximate Length: 12.1 miles in Elk County and 18 miles in McKean

Associated Municipalities: Jones and Highland Townships in Elk County. Wetmore and Hamlin Townships as well as Kane and Mount Jewett Boroughs in McKean County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line corridor and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 1-2) West Creek Trail** – Cameron and Elk Counties: The West Creek Trail follows the former ALY(PRR), Allegheny & Eastern Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad), corridor that runs from St. Marys, in Elk County, to Emporium, in Cameron County.

This corridor is owned by the West Creek Recreational Trail Association (WCRTA). Currently this trail is open for use. The corridor has been cleared of brush, but the surface is unimproved. Snowmobiles have been using it as a connection between Elk State Forest and Allegheny National Forest.

The next steps for the WCRTA are to apply for a DCNR grant to improve the trail surface, install fencing for safety in several areas, rehabilitate bridges in need of repair, install bollards at crossings to control access, and potentially install sound barriers in the Beechwood area to reduce noise.

The WCRTA also owns a former rail yard within Emporium that they have agreed to allow the borough to develop as a park, with the stipulation that they preserve a corridor through it for the trail.

Approximate Length: 10.3 miles in Elk County and 11.6 miles in Cameron County.

Associated Municipalities: City of St Marys in Elk County as well as Emporium Borough and Shippen Township in Cameron County.

- 2) **Redbank Creek Trail** – Jefferson County: This proposed trail runs along the north bank of Redbank Creek following the route of the former Mt. Laurel Railroad, also known as the Redbank Junction Railroad. This former rail line extends from the mouth of Redbank Creek at the Allegheny River to Summerville, Jefferson County.

The section between the mouth of Redbank Creek and Lawsonham, Clarion County has been secured by the Allegheny Valley Land Trust and is open to trail use, but unimproved. The Allegheny Valley Land Trust is in the process of securing the corridor for trail use from Lawsonham, through New Bethlehem, to Brookville in Jefferson County.

The Allegheny Valley Land Trust has submitted an application to PA DCNR for the design and engineering of approximately eleven miles of this corridor.

Approximate Length: 13.8 miles within Jefferson County

Associated Municipalities: Beaver, Clover, and Rose Townships as well as Brookville and Summerville Boroughs.

Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line corridor and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.

- 3-1) **Emporium Borough Trails** – Cameron County: The Emporium Borough Trails is a network of trails and pedestrian paths throughout the Borough of Emporium. These trails will also connect to the existing West Creek Trail corridor which connects Emporium to Saint Marys. The borough has received a DCNR grant to complete a feasibility study for trails throughout the Borough.

Approximate Length: NA

Associated Municipalities: Emporium Borough

Source: Don Reed, Emporium Borough Manager

- 3-2) **Mahoning Shadow Trail Extension** – Jefferson and Clearfield Counties: The existing Mahoning Shadow Trail is a 15.5 mile trail that follows the former CR(PRR/NYC) Conrail (Pennsylvania Railroad/New York Central System) west of Punxsutawney and the former PC(PRR) Penn Central (Pennsylvania Railroad) east along Mahoning Creek. This trail is owned and maintained by the Punxsutawney Area Rails to Trails Association.

The extension of this trail would connect to Mahaffey, Clearfield County, west of Punxsutawney and into Indiana and Armstrong Counties to the East. The proposed trail extensions have the potential to create future connections between Altoona and the Allegheny River Trail. The existing sections east and west of Punxsutawney also need to be connected through the Borough.

The existing trail is designed for non-motorized recreational usage including bicyclists, walkers, runners, and cross-country skiers.

Connecting this trail into Clearfield County was listed as a Long Range Transportation Project in the 2006 update to the Clearfield County Comprehensive Plan.

Approximate Length: 10.7 miles to Mahaffey

Associated Municipalities: Gaskill Township Jefferson County, Banks Township Indiana County, Bell Township and Mahaffey Borough in Clearfield County.

*Source: Punxsutawney Area Rails-to-Trails Association, Inc. Additionally, SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line after which PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine the potential corridor.*

- 4-1) Dubois to Falls Creek Trail** – Clearfield and Jefferson Counties: The non-profit Tri-County Rails-to-Trails has been negotiating with adjacent landowners in hopes of establishing this trail between Dubois and Falls Creek Borough. Falls Creek is a future trailhead for the Little Toby Creek Trail, which currently connects Ridgway and Brockway. Extension of the Little Toby Creek Trail to Falls Creek is included as a proposed trail in the PA Wilds Planning Study (December 2007), which proposes an expanded trail network and improved access to key investment areas, state parks, forests, and game lands. Such a network will foster local economic development opportunities.

Approximate Length: 3 miles

Associated Municipalities: City of Dubois and Sandy Township Clearfield County as well as Falls Creek Borough in Jefferson County.

*Source: Sandy Lick Creek Recreation Area Master Plan and Tri-County Rails-to-Trails.*

- 4-2) Blaisdell-Emery Trail** - McKean County: This trail, formerly known as the South Trail, connects Owens Way to Lewis Run Borough, about 3.8 miles. It will then continue on to Kinzua State Park.

Approximate Length: 10.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating and Lafayette Townships as well as Lewis Run Borough.

*Source: Linda Devlin Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau and Debbie Lunden McKean County Planning.*

- 4-3) Pine Creek Trail Extension** – Potter County: This trail will extend from Ansonia in Tioga County to the area of the Triple Divide, southwest of Ulysses, at Newfield Junction. Along its route this trail would pass through Galeton Borough.

In March of 2009 the Allegheny Soil and Water Conservation District and Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce began the Genesee River Wilds Project. The coordinators of this project hope to accomplish several goals, one of which is to develop a trail between Rochester, NY and Williamsport, PA.

Allegheny Trails Inc. of Wellsville, New York is working to establish a network of trails in Allegheny County, NY linking to trails in Potter and Tioga Counties in PA. Currently, Allegheny Trails owns the ten mile WAG Trail, which is a hiking and biking trail from Wellsville, NY to the state line at Genesee, PA. Allegheny Trails also owns the railroad property from the NY State line to Main Street in Genesee, PA.

On the Pennsylvania side, a connection currently being planned would then proceed southward along the Genesee River from the NY/PA line to the river's source and from there further south to somewhere near PA's Lyman Run State Park. From there it would turn eastward to meet PA's Pine

Creek Trail near its northern end. The Pine Creek Trail's southern end at Jersey Shore, PA, will eventually be connected directly to the Williamsport park system. The total length from Rochester to Williamsport will be nearly 240 miles.

Approximate Length: 15.8 miles

Associated Municipalities: Pike and Ulysses Townships as well as Galeton Borough.

*Source: Genesee River Wilds Project and Charlotte Dietrich, Potter County Planning.*

- 5) **Kinzua Valley Trail** – McKean County: This trail is being developed by the Kinzua Valley Trail Club, a non-profit organization formed in 1999 with the vision to develop a non-motorized trail from Kinzua Bridge State Park near Mt. Jewett, Pennsylvania, to the Red Bridge Area of the Allegheny Reservoir. At present the trail originates at the Westline Trailhead and extends west approximately three miles to Libby Run.

The trail is designated as non-motorized except for accessible electric powered vehicles (no golf carts and similar vehicles). Hiking, bicycling, jogging and cross-country skiing are approved uses for the trail. Equestrian use of the trail is prohibited. At present, the trail can be accessed from a trailhead located in the village of Westline.

The existing section of trail is approximately three miles in length and eight foot wide with a two foot berm on each side. The finished surface of the trail is compacted limestone.

Work on the trail will proceed as follows:

1. Construct 4 miles from western end of existing trail to the Red Bridge Recreation Area of Kinzua Reservoir along PA Route 321.
2. Construct trailhead at Westline (completed in 2009)
3. Construct 3 miles of trail from Westline east to US. Rt. 219
4. Construct trailhead at US Route 219
5. Construct 7 miles of trail from US Route 219 east to the village of Kushequa.
6. Construct trailhead at Kushequa
7. Construct 2 miles of trail from Kushequa east to Kinzua Bridge State Park, near Mt. Jewett.

Approximate Length: 3 miles open, 20 miles long when completed.

Associated Municipalities: Hamilton, Lafayette, and Hamlin Townships.

*Source: Kinzua Valley Trail Club website, Linda Devlin Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, and Debbie Lunden, McKean County Planning.*

- 6) **Ridgway to St Marys Trail** – Elk County: This proposed trail extends between Ridgway and St. Marys, along PA State Route 120 and Elk Creek. The rail line between Ridgway and St. Marys is still active and operated by the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad. The valley between the two towns currently carries the railroad, state route 120, and Elk Creek. Potential for rail with trail or use of an existing utility right-of-way should be analyzed further to determine feasibility of this trail.

The Ridgway to St. Marys trail has potential to connect to the Clarion-Little Toby Trail in Ridgway and the proposed St. Marys to Emporium trail in St. Marys.

Tri-County-Rails-to-Trails may be interested in securing and developing this proposed trail corridor.

Approximate Length: 10.8 miles

Associated Municipalities: Ridgway Township and Ridgway Borough as well as St. Marys City.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 7) **Elk Country Trail** – Clearfield, Elk, and Cameron Counties: The Elk Country Trail is proposed in the PA Wilds Plan (December 2007) as the Bennett's Valley Trail. This trail would utilize the inactive Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad line along PA Route 255 between DuBois and Weedville, passing through Penfield and PA Route 555 between Weedville and Driftwood, passing through Benezette.

The Bennett's Valley Rails to Trails group would ultimately like to develop this trail between DuBois, Clearfield County and Driftwood, Cameron County.

Approximate Length: 43.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: City of DuBois, Sandy and Huston Townships in Clearfield County, Jay and Benezette Townships in Elk County, and Driftwood Borough and Gibson Townships in Cameron County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 8-1) **Bullis Camp Trail** – McKean County: The Bullis Camp Trail is a newly proposed connection between Tuna Valley Trail System, specifically Marilla Springs Trail, and the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) Trail System, specifically Tracy Ridge Trails. This connection has the potential to connect the nationally recognized North Country Trail with the City of Bradford. The proposed route is completely within the Allegheny National Forest.

Approximate Length: 7.8 miles

Associated Municipalities: Corydon Township.

*Source: Linda Devlin, Allegheny National Forest.*

- 8-2) **Smethport to Duke Center** – McKean County: This conceptual trail follows the former Bradford Bordell and Kinzua Railroad corridor between Smethport and Duke Center. The trail is proposed as a motorized corridor in part connecting Smethport and Duke Center to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails ATV Park.

Approximate Length: 13.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating, Bradford, Foster, and Otto Townships as well as Smethport Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 9-1) **Snow Shoe Rail Trail Extension - Wallaceton Clearfield** – Clearfield County: Snow Shoe Rails to Trails manages and operates a multi-use rail trail which is approximately 19 mile long that is also open to ATV use. The existing section of trail currently runs from Clarence, Centre County to just short of Windburn in Clearfield County. The Wallaceton Clearfield Extension would run from the western end of the existing trail at Windburn to Clearfield Borough. This trail would follow the former Penn Central Railroad between Windburn and Clearfield. At the time of this plan an interested party was looking to open a landfill along this corridor. This would prohibit using the rail corridor for recreational purposes as the railroad would need to be reactivated to access the landfill.

Approximate Length: 16.9

Associated Municipalities: Morris, Boggs, Bradford, and Lawrence Townships as well as Wallaceton and Clearfield Boroughs.

*Source: Snow Shoe Rails to Trails Association (SSRTA). Additionally, SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 9-2) **Brockway to Brookville Trail** – Jefferson County: The Brockway to Brookville trail follows the former PSR(PS) Pittsburgh Southern Railroad (Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad) corridor between Brockway and Brookville. Tri-County-Rails-to-Trails owns half of the trail corridor west from Brockway to Allens Mills with a fifteen foot right-of-way. Between Allens Mills and Brookville a 4,000 acre parcel known as the Sulger Tract owned the Lyme Timber Company.

This parcel would be a good location for a trailhead near Interstate 80 for a Rail Trail gateway to PA Wilds. Additionally, the inactive rail corridor extends through the property. Without this tract, it will be very difficult to connect this trail to Brookville.

Brockway is fast becoming the focal point of a burgeoning rail-trail network in North Central Pennsylvania. The Rails to Trails Conservancy (RTC) assisted the Tri-County Rails-to-Trails in developing the existing Clarion – Little Toby Creek Trail.

In addition, Brockway was selected by the CDC as one of two communities in Pennsylvania to participate in a pilot healthy community program aimed at combating obesity. RTC has assisted by working to better integrate the trail into the community, and by helping to develop a walk-to-school program.

Approximate Length: 17.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Snyder, Washington, Warsaw, and Pine Creek Townships.

*Source: Rail to Trail Feasibility Study of the Piney Branch Trail and Brookville to Brockway Trail, initiated by the Headwaters Charitable Trust (HCT) in 2003.*

- 10) **Emporium to Fairgrounds Trail** - Cameron County: This conceptual trail would extend from Emporium Borough to the Cameron County Fairgrounds following the former Erie and Rich Valley Railroad west along Route 46 and Rich Valley Road. This corridor is being studied as part of the West Creek Trail Feasibility study currently being undertaken by Gannett Fleming.

Approximate Length: 3.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Emporium Borough and Shippen Township.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 11) **Anderson Creek Gorge Trail** - Clearfield County: The proposed Anderson Creek Gorge Trail would follow the former Buffalo & Pittsburgh Rail Road corridor connecting the City of DuBois with Curwensville and the Clearfield to Grampian Rail Trail. The trail heads north out of Curwensville along Anderson Creek to just south of Rockton. From this point, the trail heads northwest toward DuBois. The inactive rail corridor ends at C&M Junction south of the City of DuBois. Further investigation is needed to determine a feasible route into downtown DuBois.

Approximate Length: 20.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Sandy, Brady, Union, Bloom, and Pike Townships as well as Curwensville Borough and the City of DuBois.

Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.

## ***PROPOSED EXCEPTIONAL PRIORITY RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDOR***

The proposed vital priority recreation and transportation greenway corridors focus planning, acquisition, design and construction, and funding resources to implement projects.

- 12-1) **Piney Branch Trail** – Jefferson County: The Piney Branch Trail begins at Piney Dam in Clarion County and continues through Brookville to Port Barnett in Jefferson County. In 2002, the Headwaters Charitable Trust retained Civil & Environmental Design Group, Inc. to prepare a rail-trail feasibility study for the Piney Branch Trail and the Brookville to Brockway Trail. This trail follows the former PSR(NYC) Pittsburgh Southern Railroad (New York Central System).

Approximate Length: 27.8 miles overall, 12.3 within Jefferson County

Associated Municipalities: Clover, Rose, and Pine Creek Townships as well as Brookville Borough.

*Source: Rail to Trail Feasibility Study of the Piney Branch Trail and Brookville to Brockway Trail, initiated by the Headwaters Charitable Trust (HCT) in 2003. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 12-2) **Pittsburgh Southern Railroad Corridor** – Jefferson County: This trail connects Brookville and Timblin via the former Pittsburgh Southern Rail Road Corridor. At Timblin the trail connects to the Armstrong County Multi-Use Trail. On the northern end, the trail connects to the Redbank Creek Trail in Brookville.

Approximate Length: 24.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Ringgold, Oliver, Knox, and Pine Creek Townships as well as Timblin and Brookville Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 13-1) Wiley Trail to Bucktail Path** – Cameron County: This hiking trail connects the existing Wiley Trail to the Bucktail Path. The proposed route is completely within Elk State Forest property. The completion of this trail would establish a connection between Emporium Borough and the Bucktail Path Hiking Trail.

Approximate Length: 3.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Portage and Lumber Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 13-2) Dimeling to Clearfield Trail** – Clearfield County: The Dimeling to Clearfield Trail follows the former Penn Central Transportation Company Line along Clearfield Creek. This trail extends the Dimeling to Madera Trail to Clearfield connecting it to the southern communities of Clearfield County.

Approximate Length: 7.4 miles

Associated Municipalities: Lawrence, Boggs, and Bradford Townships and Clearfield Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 13-3) Little Toby Trail Extension** – Jefferson County: The Little Toby Trail Extension is proposed to follow the former Penn Central Transportation Line between Lanes Mills and Brockway. This trail would connect the existing Wolf Creek Trail to the Little Toby Trail with potential to eventually connect Dubois to Ridgway.

Due to property owner issues along PA Route 219, alternatives routes are being pursued. As of March 2010, Washington Township is working to complete this trail.

Approximate Length: 3.8 miles

Associated Municipalities: Washington and Snyder Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-1) Sinnemahoning State Park Trail Extension** – Cameron and Potter Counties: The existing section of this trail follows an inactive rail corridor which travels approximately five and a half miles from the northern border of the Sinnemahoning State Park to the park's southern border. At the present time, three miles of this trail have been improved. There are pullouts with interpretive signage and two bridges along the course of the trail. The proposed extension follows the same inactive rail corridor south to Sinnemahoning.

The history of the rail line is as follows: As late as 1895 there was no railroad between Sinnemahoning and Wharton. The railroad was built by the Goodyear's around 1900 as part of the Sinnemahoning Valley RR system. It then became part of the Buffalo & Susquehanna RR and eventually the Baltimore & Ohio. This line ran through Sinnemahoning and then down toward DuBois. The P & E ran through Sinnemahoning and down to Renovo.

DCNR is constructing a visitors center in the park, along the trail, which will be a "portal to the wilds". This state of the art facility will be similar to the Elk Country Visitor Center, only it will focus on wild life viewing in general, not just elk viewing.

Additional connections should be made to bring the three regional hiking trails into Sinnemahoning. These trails include the Donut Hole Trail, Quehanna Trail, and Bucktail Path.

Approximate Length: 7.8 miles

Associated Municipalities: Grove and Gibson Townships in Cameron County.

*Source: DCNR Bureau of State Parks and Bureau of Forestry. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-2) St. Marys to Brockway Trail** – Elk and Jefferson Counties: This conceptual trail follows the former Pittsburgh Shawmut and Northern Railroad southwest from St. Marys through Kersey in Elk County to Brockway in Jefferson County.

Approximate Length: 25.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Horton, Fox, and Jay Townships as well as the City of St. Marys in Elk County and Snyder Township and Brockway Borough in Jefferson County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-3) Bradford to Rew Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail is proposed to extend east from Bradford along the former Bradford Bordell and Kinzua corridor. At the former Kinzua Junction south of Rew, the trail would connect with the proposed Smethport to Duke Center Trail. This corridor is proposed as a motorized connection between the City of Bradford and Majestic Trails ATV Park.

Approximate Length: 8.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bradford and Foster Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-4) Stage Coach Trail** – McKean County: The Stage Coach Trail is a historic path following an old stage coach route between Smethport and Port Allegany. This route passes through State Game Land No. 61 along a designated use path for part of the way.

Approximate Length: 7.2 miles

Associated Municipalities: Liberty and Keating Townships as well as Smethport and Port Allegany Boroughs.

*Source: Potato Creek Trails Association. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-5) **Shawmut Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail would follow the former Pittsburgh Shawmut and Northern Railroad corridor from just south of the McKean County Complex on US Route 6 outside of Smethport to the existing Shawmut Trail in Elk State Forest in Elk County.

Approximate Length: 17.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating, Hamlin, and Sergeant Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-6) **Mill Street Railroad Corridor Trail** – McKean County: The Mill Street Railroad Corridor extends approximately one mile along the north side of downtown along an old railroad bed since converted to an alley and under the ownership of the City of Bradford.

A trailhead located at Mill Street under the existing Route 219 overpass, provides trail users with parking, trail directional signage and access for the downtown area trails and trails to the north. An asphalt trail is proposed to extend from Mill Street to Mechanics Street, passing Hanley Park, with views of downtown and old Bradford City Hall clock tower and the historic lumber mill. This section of the trail may use the existing gravel alley as a base to reduce construction costs. After crossing West Washington Street, the trail would continue through the City of Bradford owned property along the West Branch of the Tuna Creek that would make a pleasant city park. The trail then passes and provides a connection to the Bradford City Library. A short section along and across Barbour Street will provide a connection to the UPB/Downtown Loop Trail. Ownership issues need to be addressed with the city of Bradford and private landowners along this trail section.

Approximate Length: 1.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: City of Bradford

*Source: Tuna Valley Trails Association: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001.*

- 14-7) **Refinery Trail** – McKean County: Proposed in the Tuna Valley Greenways and Trails Plan, the Refinery Trail is the northern access point of the Tuna Valley trail system into the City of Bradford. The trail extends over one mile from the Crook Farm Loop Trail at Bolivar Drive to Mill Street near downtown Bradford.

The proposed trail will extend along the west bank of Tuna Creek on Bradford Flood Control Authority right-of-way property. Across the creek are views of the original Kendall Refinery, the first in the area. It remains a working refinery now owned and operated by the American Refining Group. Crossing Kendall Avenue, the proposed trail will follow the top of the flood control wall to

the next trail segment at Mill Street. Narrow pathways along the flood control walls of Tuna Creek south of Kendall may require creative trail solutions such as a wood boardwalk extending over the flood control wall and fencing for separation from the refinery and the railroad tracks. In addition, a pedestrian bridge will be needed to cross a feeder stream south of Bolivar Drive. Interpretive signage along this trail will describe the flood control system and celebrate the history of oil production in the Tuna Valley with views of the oldest refinery in the nation.

Approximate Length: 1.4 miles

Associated Municipalities: City of Bradford.

*Source: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 14-8) **Austin Dam Trail** – Potter County: The Austin Dam Trail is proposed to connect Austin to Austin Dam Park. In 2009, Austin Borough hired Pashek Associates to complete a Master Plan for the Austin Dam Memorial Park. As part of this Master Plan, a trail connection to the Borough's Main Street was proposed. This trail would follow borough streets and an access road to the former Paper Mill.

Approximate Length: 1.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating Township and Austin Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 15) **Snow Shoe Rail Trail Extension** – Clearfield County: This proposed extension to the Snow Shoe Rail Trail would connect the western terminus of the existing trail to Philipsburg. This trail will follow the former Pennsylvania Railroad corridor along Moshannon Creek. Snow Shoe Rails to Trails presently have no plans to construct this extension.

Approximate Length: 8.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Cooper, Morris, and Decatur Townships in Clearfield County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 16-1) **Houtzdale Line Trail Extension East** – Clearfield County: Purchased from Conrail in 1994 following abandonment, the existing Houtzdale Line corridor was converted to a multi-use path in order to preserve the land as a public asset. The entire length of the trail is open for use with nearly eight miles of improved surface from the Muddy Run Bridge west of SR2005 at Smoke Run to SR2007 just east of Houtzdale.

The trail has been graded, compacted and marked with mileposts. The extreme east and west ends of the trail remain in rough condition but are useable by hikers, mountain bikers, and cross-country skiers. The eastern extension of the Houtzdale Line Trail follows the former Penn Central Transportation corridor line to Osceola.

Approximate Length: 1.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Decatur Township and Osceola Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 16-2) Falls Creek to Punxsutawney Trail** – Jefferson County: This conceptual trail follows the former BO(B&S) Baltimore and Ohio (Buffalo & Susquehanna) corridor southwest from Falls Creek through Reynoldsville and Reynlow Park and on to Punxsutawney.

Approximate Length: 21.2 miles

Associated Municipalities: Winslow, McCalmont, and Young Townships as well as Falls Creek, Reynoldsville, and Punxsutawney Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 16-3) Downtown Bradford Trail** – McKean County: The Downtown Bradford Trail provides a north-south trail connection path through downtown Bradford on Main Street. From the Mill Street trailhead, this proposed trail will follow Mill Street east, then run south along existing alleys, inactive railroad beds and flood control property near Tuna Creek. An inactive railroad bridge will be used to cut construction costs by providing a place to cross the West Branch of Tuna Creek where the trail extends to Main Street. Pleasant views of downtown and of the confluence of Tuna Creek and the West Branch of Tuna Creek are to be found along this trail.

The trail will then pass along Main Street and connect to points of interest throughout the Bradford Downtown Historic Business District. This portion of the trail will utilize low-volume downtown streets and alleys for bicycle lanes and city sidewalks for pedestrian traffic. Emphasis should be placed on developing trails along the West Branch of the Tuna Creek as it passes through the city.

The Downtown Bradford Trail will focus attention on the West Branch Tuna Creek resource and promote economic development by increasing pedestrian traffic along its length. The business district will also benefit from the increase in pedestrian traffic as the trail passes through the city. Interpretive signage will inform trail users of the many homes and buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and other places of interest in the Bradford Historic District including Veteran's Square, Old City Hall and the Cline Well No. 1, which is the county's oldest producing oil well, located behind the McDonald's restaurant. Development of this trail will depend upon improving city streets with wider walks, signage, bike lanes on streets, and new curb ramps at intersections.

Approximate Length: .9 miles

Associated Municipalities: City of Bradford.

*Source: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 17-1) **Emporium to Thunder Mountain Trail** – Cameron and Elk Counties: this conceptual hiking trail connects Emporium Borough south into Elk State Forest to trails with potential connections to the Elk Viewing Center, Benezette, the Donut Hole Trail and the Bucktail Path. This trail passes through State Game Land Number 14 along an existing designated use path.

Approximate Length: 19.2 miles

Associated Municipalities: Shippen Township in Cameron County and Benezette Township in Elk County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 17-2) **Kendall Creek Watershed Trail** – McKean County: This trail is proposed to extend east from the City of Bradford along Kendall Creek with potential to connect Lafferty Hollow Industrial Park and Floyd C. Fretz Middle School to downtown Bradford.

Approximate Length: 1.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Foster Township and the City of Bradford.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 17-3) **Allegheny Trail** – Potter County: The Allegheny Trail follows the former CPPA Coudersport and Port Allegheny Railroad east out of Coudersport to Newfield Junction. This trail will follow the Allegheny River with potential to connect Coudersport to the Eastern Triple Divide as well as the proposed Genesee River Wilds Project, Rochester to Williamsport Trail.

This trail is being proposed as a multi-use motorized trail.

Approximate Length: 15.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Eulalia, Allegany, and Ulysses Townships as well as Coudersport Borough.

*Source: Potter County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 18-1) **St. Marys to Johnsonburg Trail** – Elk County: This conceptual trail follows the former SMW Saint Marys & Western Railroad corridor northwest from St. Marys to Johnsonburg along State Route 255 passing through State Game Land Number 25.

Approximate Length: 9.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Ridgway Township, Johnsonburg Borough and St. Marys City.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

18-2) **Burnside Trail – Clearfield County:** The Burnside Trail is a conceptual trail that follows the former PC(PRR) Penn Central Transportation Co. (Pennsylvania Railroad) corridor from Mahaffey to Burnside.

Approximate Length: 9.4 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bell and Burnside Townships as well as Mahaffey and Burnside Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

19-1) **Snow Shoe Rail Trail Extension – Philipsburg to Hale** – Clearfield County: This conceptual trail would follow the former P&S Pittsburgh & Susquehanna Railroad from Philipsburg to Osceola Mills and then the former PC(PRR) Penn Central Transportation Co. (Pennsylvania Railroad) on to Hale.

This conceptual trail was proposed within the Centre County Greenways Plan. Additionally, a trail from Osceola Mills southeast to Bald Eagle Mills was also proposed along the former PRR Pennsylvania Railroad corridor. This trail should be connected to trails proposed within the North Central Greenways Plan.

Approximate Length: 12.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Woodward and Decatur Townships as well as Chester Hill and Osceola Borough.

*Source: Centre County Greenways Plan. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

19-2) **Johnsonburg to Ridgway Trail** – Elk County: The Johnsonburg to Ridgway Trail follows State Route 219, the Clarion River and the active BPRR(BRP/ERIE) Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad (Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh Railway/Erie Railroad).

Approximate Length: 6.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Ridgway Township as well as Ridgway and Johnsonburg Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

19-3) **McKean to Kinzua Bridge State Park** – McKean County: This proposed trail follows the former MJKR Mount Jewett Kinzua & Riterville Railroad corridor along Kinzua Creek from McKean on Route 646 to Kinzua Bridge State Park. This trail will connect with the Kinzua Valley Trail at the State Park and the conceptual Mount Jewett Kinzua & Riterville Railroad Trail in McKean.

Approximate Length: 5.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating Township.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 19-4) Port Allegany to Coudersport Trail** – McKean and Potter Counties: This conceptual trail follows the former CPPA Coudersport and Port Allegany Railroad corridor between Port Allegany and Coudersport.

Approximate Length: 15.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Liberty Township and Port Allegany Borough in McKean County as well as Roulette and Eulalia Townships and Coudersport Borough in Potter County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 19-5) Sinnemahoning State Park to Galeton Trail** – Potter County: This conceptual trail follows the former BO(B&S) Baltimore and Ohio (Buffalo & Susquehanna) corridor between Sinnemahoning State Park and Galeton Borough. This trail passes through Wharton and has potential to connect to Cherry Springs State Park.

Approximate Length: 37.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Abbott, East Fork District, Pike, Summit, West Branch, and Wharton Townships as well as Galeton Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 19-6) Coudersport to Shinglehouse Trail** – Potter County: The conceptual Coudersport to Shinglehouse Trail is proposed to follow the historic path of the Underground Railroad along PA State Route 44, north out of Coudersport to Coneville. At Coneville, the trail follows the former NYPA New York and Pennsylvania Railway corridor northwest to Shinglehouse.

Approximate Length: 17.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Clara, Eulalia, Hebron, and Sharon Township as well as Coudersport and Shinglehouse Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 20) Brookville Railway Line Trail** – Jefferson County: This conceptual trail follows the former BRK Brookville Railway corridor north from Brookville along North Fork to Hays Lot in Clear Creek State Forest.

Approximate Length: 13.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Eldred, Heath, Pine Creek, Polk, Rose, and Warsaw Townships as well as Brookville Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

## PROPOSED SIGNIFICANT PRIORITY RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

The proposed significant priority recreation and transportation greenway corridors focus planning, acquisition, design and construction resources to provide locals with opportunity to secure funding to implement projects.

- 21-1) Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor Trail** – Cameron, McKean, and Potter Counties: This conceptual trail follows the active Norfolk Southern corridor, which connects Port Allegheny to Lockhaven. While this rail line is still active, it should be considered a priority to acquire if it becomes inactive. If converted to a trail, this corridor has the potential to connect all towns between Port Allegheny and Lock Haven passing through every town in Cameron County.

Approximate Length: Approximately 48 miles from Port Allegany to Clinton County line.

Associated Municipalities: Liberty and Norwich Townships and Port Allegheny Borough in McKean County, Keating Township in Potter County, Emporium and Driftwood Boroughs, as well as Shippen, Portage, Lumber, Gibson, and Grove Townships in Cameron County.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 21-2) Irvona Mahaffey Trail** – Clearfield County: The conceptual Irvona Mahaffey Trail follows the former PRR Pennsylvania Railroad Corridor running southeast out of Mahaffey, passing through Newburg on its way to Irvona.

Approximate Length: 14.4 miles

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria, Bell, Chest, Ferguson, and Jordan Townships as well as Irvona, Mahaffey, and Newburg Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 22-1) Clarion River Trail** – Elk County: The Clarion River trail is a conceptual trail along the inactive Clarion River Railroad (CLAR) from the Little Toby Creek Trail at Carman to the village of Hallton. From Hallton this trail would divert from the CLAR and follow River Road, Belltown Road, and Forest Road paralleling the Clarion River to Cook Forest State Park in Clarion County.

The Lumber Heritage Region Plan proposed extending the rail-trail along the Clarion River from Ridgway to Irwintown. The village of Hallton is just west of Irwintown along the former Clarion River Railroad line.

Approximate Length: 22.6 miles from Carman to Forest County line.

Associated Municipalities: Spring Creek and Millstone Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 22-2) Hefner Reservoir/Marshburg Trail** – McKean County: This proposed trail connects the Bradford area and other parts of the Tuna Valley Trail and greenway system to Hefner Reservoir and on to Marshburg and the Allegheny National Forest.

The route follows the proposed greenway along the West Branch of the Tuna Creek with the trail as a central feature. The trail as it is proposed in the Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study should be designed to avoid or protect environmentally sensitive wetlands and wildlife areas along the creek. Trails in this area will be gravel or earthen paths with wood boardwalks through sensitive areas.

A trailhead may be located near Hefner Reservoir through partnership with the Bradford Water Authority. Day-hike loops will be provided around the reservoir and to nearby sites surrounding the trailhead.

Trails will extend from the Hefner Reservoir west to the ANF and south to the Marshburg and the Westline Ski Area. A potential trailhead in Marshburg could provide snowmobile access to the Allegheny National Forest snowmobile trail. The trail extending west from Marshburg will provide a connection to and from the North Country Trail, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Center and the historic Oil Well Power House. Ownership issues and coordinated connections with the Allegheny National Forest trail system will need to be addressed along this trail.

Approximate Length: 12.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bradford, Corydon, and Lafayette Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 23-1) Collins Pine Trail** – McKean County: The Collins Pine Trail extends from the Richard E. McDowell Trail trailhead at Clarks Lane to the Marilla Reservoir Loop Trail and on to the Allegheny National Forest. Much of the Collins Pine Trail passes through Collins Pine property along existing service roads and trails that split into north and south routes. Trails that are constructed in this area will be composed of natural materials including gravel and compacted earth.

Ownership issues need to be resolved on trails outside the Collins Pine properties. In the summer of 1999, a student intern from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford hiked, mapped and documented potential trails in this area. His research also included property ownership data. This information will be valuable in future development of trails in this area.

Approximate Length: 4.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bradford Township.

*Source: Tuna Valley Trails Association: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 23-2) Montgomery Creek Trail** – Clearfield County: This proposed trail extends just southeast of Clearfield to the Overland Trail in Moshannon State Forest along the Montgomery Creek. This trail was proposed by the Montgomery Creek Watershed Association.

Approximate Length: 3.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Lawrence and Pike Townships.

*Source: Clearfield County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine location of rail line while PA Map topography and aerial photography were used to determine potential corridor.*

- 24-1) Irvona Branch Corridor Trail** – Clearfield County: This conceptual trail will follow an inactive Pennsylvania and Northwestern division of the Pennsylvania Railroad corridor between Coalport in Clearfield County and Bellwood in Blair County. Currently the Bells Gap Rail Road Trail, also known as the Bellwood-Anits Rail Trail, is open between Bellwood and Lloydsville in Cambria County. This 6.3 mile trail opened during the summer of 2008. To connect into the North Central greenways trail system, a connection is proposed between Coalport and Lloydsville along the same inactive rail corridor.

Approximate Length: 13.8 miles (5.3 miles in Clearfield County)

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria Township and Coalport Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 24-2) Bendigo Trail** – Elk County: This conceptual trail will follow the inactive PRR Pennsylvania Railroad corridor, former Johnsonburg and Clermont Railroad, corridor between Johnsonburg and Elk State Park passing through Bendigo State Park along the way.

Approximate Length: 7.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Jones and Ridgway Townships as well as Johnsonburg Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 25-1) Houtzdale Trail Extension West** – Clearfield County: This proposed trail follows the former PC(PRR) Penn Central Transportation Co. (Pennsylvania Railroad) from the western terminus of the Houtzdale Line Rail Trail to Madera. From Madera, this trail follows the former PC(NYC) Penn Central Transportation Co. (New York Central System) southwest through Glen Hope to Irvona along Clearfield Creek.

Approximate Length: 11.2 miles

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria and Bilger Townships as well as Glen Hope and Irvona Boroughs.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 25-2) Penn Central Transportation Corridor** – Clearfield County: This conceptual trail diverts off the Burnside Trail north of Burnside and follows the former Penn Central Transportation Co. corridor southwest to Glen Campbell in Indiana County. This trail is intended to make future connections to trails within Indiana County.

Approximate Length: Approximately 1 mile in Clearfield County

Associated Municipalities: Burnside Township.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 25-3) **Burnside Cherry Tree Trail** – Clearfield County: The Burnside Cheery Tree Trail is a conceptual trail that travels south out of Burnside along the West Branch Susquehanna River to Cherry Tree in Indiana County. This trail would follow the active RJCP(NYC) R J Corman Railroad – Pennsylvania Rail Lines ( New York Central System). If this line should become inactive it is recommended that it be considered for a trail corridor.

Approximate Length: 8.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Burnside Township and Burnside Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 26) **Mount Jewett, Kinzua, and Ritterville Railroad Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail follows the former Mount Jewett, Kinzua, and Ritterville Railroad Trail between McKean Village and Farmers Valley. This trail has the potential to create a loop trail from Smethport utilizing the conceptual Smethport to Duke Center Trail as well as the Pennsy Trail.

Approximate Length: 8.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating Township.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 27-1) **Six Mile Trail** – Cameron County: The Six Mile Trail is a proposed trail extending north from the Emporium to Fairgrounds trail at Rich Valley along the inactive E&RV Emporium and Rich Valley Railroad. This trail is proposed as a multi-use including motorized corridor.

Approximate Length: 6.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Shippen Township.

*Source: Cameron County. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 27-2) **Pennsy Trail Extension South** – McKean County: The Pennsy Trail Extension South follows the former PRR Pennsylvania Railroad Line from the McKean County Fairgrounds in Smethport to Clermont. This trail is proposed to extend the Potato Creek Trail Association's existing Pennsy Grade Equestrian Trail.

Approximate Length: 13.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating, Norwich, and Sergeant Townships as well as Smethport Borough.

*Source: Potato Creek Trail Association. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 27-3) Pennsy Trail Extension North** – McKean County: The Pennsy Trail Extension North follows the former PRR Pennsylvania Railroad Line from the northern terminus of the Pennsy Grade Trail past Eldred to the New York State Border. This trail is proposed to extend the Potato Creek Trail Association's existing Pennsy Grade Equestrian Trail.

Approximate Length: 15.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Eldred and Keating Townships.

*Source: Potato Creek Trail Association. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 27-4) North Border Trail** – Potter County: The North Border Trail follows the former WAG(B&S) Wellsville Addison and Galeton Railroad (Buffalo and Susquehanna) corridor from Newfield Junction near the Eastern Triple Divide to the New York State Border at Genesee. This trail is part of a regional trail proposed as part of the as part of the Genesee River Wilds Project which proposed to construct a trail between Rochester, New York and Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Approximate Length: 10.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bingham, Genesee, and Ulysses Townships.

*Source: Allegheny Trails, Wellsville New York. Genesee River Wilds Project description provided by Allen Kerkeslager, St. Joseph's University. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 28) Clarion to Jefferson Trail Extension** – Jefferson County: The Clarion to Jefferson Trail Extension follows the former LEFC Lake Erie Franklin and Clarion Railroad corridor extending the trail from Sutton on the Clarion/Jefferson border to Summerville. Within Clarion County the western terminus of the trail is Clarion Borough.

This short trail could connect the Clarion to Jefferson Trail and the Piney Branch Trail (also known as the Venango Frankstown Path in the Clarion County Greenways Plan) to the proposed Redbank Creek Trail.

Approximate Length: 3.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Clover Township and Summerville Borough.

*Source: Northwest Pennsylvania Greenways Plan, 2008. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 29-1) Great Shamokin Path Trail** – Cameron County: the Great Shamokin Path Trail follows the course of the famous Indian route from the Susquehanna River to the Allegheny River. Along its path,

this trail will pass through Clearfield and Jefferson Counties within the North Central region. This trail is proposed as a hiking trail similar to the Baker Trail in Armstrong, Jefferson, and Clarion Counties.

Approximate Length: Nearly 70 miles across Clearfield and Jefferson Counties.

Associated Municipalities: Bloom, Bradford, Brady, Cooper, Graham, Lawrence, and Pike Townships as well as Clearfield, Curwensville, and Troutville Boroughs in Clearfield County. Bell, Gaskill, Henderson, Perry, and Young Townships as well as Punxsutawney and Sykesville Boroughs in Jefferson County.

*Source: Indians in Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 29-2) Latchaw Creek Trail** – McKean County: Latchaw Creek Trail is a major east-west route in the northern portion of the Tuna Valley greenway system. Located near the Pennsylvania-New York state line, the trail provides major connections to and from the Allegany State Park in New York and to panoramic views of the City of Bradford.

Trailheads located at Interstate Parkway and at Crook Farm will provide access to this portion of the trail system. The trail passes through properties owned by the City of Bradford Water Authority and Collins Pine, whose owners have partnered with the Tuna Valley Trail Association to provide use of existing service roads and trails. Ownership issues will need to be addressed in the remaining areas along the trail.

Approximate Length: 6.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Foster Township.

*Source: Tuna Valley Trails Association: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001. Aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 29-3) Wharton to Keating Summit Trail** – Potter County: The Wharton to Keating Summit Trail follows the former B&S Buffalo and Susquehanna railroad corridor from Wharton through Austin to Keating Summit. This trail would connect Austin and the Austin Dam Memorial Park to Sinnemahoning State Park.

Approximate Length: 15.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating, Portage, Sylvania, and Wharton Townships as well as Austin Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 29-4) Genesee to Coneville Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail follows the former NYPA New York and Pennsylvania Railroad corridor from Genesee through Oswayo to Coneville. This trail would provide a connection between Genesee and Shinglehouse and eventually connect the trail system in McKean County to the Genesee River Wilds Project corridor including the Pine Creek Trail.

Approximate Length: 15.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Allegany, Genesee, Hebron, and Oswayo Townships as well as Oswayo Borough.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

## PROPOSED HIGH PRIORITY RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDOR

The proposed high priority recreation and transportation greenway corridors focus planning and acquisition resources to plan for future projects.

- 30) **Ulysses Trail** – Potter County: This conceptual trail follows the former CPPA, Coudersport and Port Allegany Railroad from Newfield Junction to Ulysses and the former NYC New York Central System corridor from Ulysses to the Potter/Tioga Line, and potentially on to Westfield in Tioga County.

Approximate Length: 15.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bingham, Harrison, and Ulysses Townships as well as Ulysses Borough.

*Source: Potter County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 31-1) **Paine to Weedville Trail** – Elk County: This conceptual trail follows the former PSN Pittsburgh Shawmut and Northern Railroad corridor from Paine to Weedville. This trail would connect the Elk Country Trail and the St. Marys to Brockway Trail, from St. Marys to Benezette.

Approximate Length: 9.4 miles

Associated Municipalities: Fox and Jay Townships.

*Source: SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 31-2) **Custer City Loop Trail** – McKean County: The Custer City Loop Trail provides a three and a half mile east to west connection between two major corridors of the Tuna Valley greenway system. This trail connects the Hefner Reservoir/Marshburg Trail and the Emery Blaisdell Trail linking the Allegheny National Forest with the Kinzua Bridge State Park as well as providing an loop for long distance trail users from Bradford.

Partnership with local businesses in Custer City will provide trailhead facilities. Trails west of Custer City will follow existing low volume dead-end and closed roads, thereby reducing the construction cost of creating new trails surfaces.

Approximate Length: 3.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bradford Township.

*Source: Tuna Valley Trails Association: Tuna Valley Trail and Greenway Study, 2001. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 31-3) Smethport to Mount Jewett Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail follows the former PSN(MJS) Pittsburgh Shawmut & Northern Railroad (Mount Jewett & Smethport Railroad) corridor from Mount Jewett to the Shawmut Trail near Marvindale from which a connection can be made to Smethport.

Approximate Length: 11.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Hamlin and Keating Townships as well as Mount Jewett Borough.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 32-1) Irvona to Game Land Trail** – Clearfield County: The Irvona to Game Land Trail follows an inactive PRR Pennsylvania Railroad corridor southwest from Irvona to State Game Land Number 120. To the west of this Game Land is the Rock Run Recreation Area. This trail could provide connections to this recreation asset.

Approximate Length: 11.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Hamlin and Keating Townships as well as Mount Jewett Borough.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 32-2) Kinzua Creek and Kane Trail** – McKean County: The Kinzua Creek and Kane Trail follows the former CPL - KC&K Central Pennsylvania Lumber Company – Kinzua Creek and Kane Railroad corridor north from Kane to the Red Bridge Area of the Allegheny Reservoir. At the Red Birgde area, this trail connects to the proposed extension of the Kinzua Creek Trail.

Approximate Length: 8.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Hamlin and Wetmore Townships as well as Kane Borough.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 33) New York PA Railroad Trail** – McKean County: This conceptual trail extends the Coudersport to Shinglehouse Trail north from Shinglehouse into New York along the former NYPA New York Pennsylvania Railroad corridor.

Approximate Length: 4.1 miles

Associated Municipalities: Ceres Township.

*Source: Allegheny Trails Wellsville, New York and McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

- 34) **Spring Creek Trail** – Elk and Forest Counties: The Spring Creek Trail follows the inactive narrow gauge TIV Tionesta Valley Railroad logging railroad north from Hallton to Duhring. This conceptual trail passes through State Game Land Number 28 and the Allegheny National Forest.

Approximate Length: 10 miles (3.5 miles within Elk County)

Associated Municipalities: Spring Creek and Millstone Townships in Elk County.

*Source: McKean County Planning. SPV's Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America was used to determine inactive rail line and aerial photography was used to digitize the corridor.*

## **WATER TRAILS**

North Central Pennsylvania is fortunate to have two outstanding water trails within the region, the Clarion River Water Trail and the Susquehanna River Water Trail - West Branch. Not only do these water trails provide the opportunity for recreation, but they also encourage economic development within the communities along their routes. Studies done in other states indicate that water trails generate on average approximately eighty-five dollars per paddler in economic development along the corridor.

### EXISTING WATER TRAILS

In addition to the water trails recommended herein, it is important that the North Central region continue to market and promote the existing water trails within the region. They include the Clarion River Water Trail and the Susquehanna River Water Trail - West Branch. As water trails officially designated by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Water Trail brochures and informational pamphlets are available online at [www.fish.state.pa.us/water-trails/trailindex.htm](http://www.fish.state.pa.us/water-trails/trailindex.htm), and hard copies can also be obtained through the Commission. Every effort should be made to publicize this information to develop an awareness of these water trails.

### ECONOMICS OF WATER TRAILS

The land based trail community has lobbied for trail development and improvement utilizing the results of economic impact studies done along existing trails. However, to date there have not been studies completed within Pennsylvania to determine the economic impact of water trails. A recommendation of this plan is to complete an economic impact study on the Susquehanna River Water Trail – West Branch to quantify what the economic impact of this water trail is to the communities along its course. This study should be conducted using the format established by the Rails to Trails Conservancy in their “Trail Users Survey Workbook”. Furthermore, data should be collected from canoe and kayak liveries, and known providers of goods and services within the corridor, to assist in providing the most accurate estimate of economic impact that can be achieved. The results of this study can then be utilized to promote the establishment of other water trails in the North Central Region as well as throughout the Commonwealth. Like the surveys completed for rail trails, we suspect the economic impact of water trails are far greater than realized by the county and local decision makers within the region.

There are several additional opportunities to establish water trails within the North Central Pennsylvania Region. With an economic impact analysis in hand, local partners should be able to justify establishing water trails in the region.

## PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION WATER TRAIL PROGRAM

In Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has established a Water Trail program. Local partners can work with the Commission to evaluate, and if feasible, advance the planning and development of additional water trails in the region.

The commission provides the following guidelines for achieving water trail designation:

- **Public Planning Process:** In order to designate a water trail, there must be a public process. This includes multiple public meetings that are publicly advertised. The purpose of such meetings is to collect information about the water trail (access points, amenities, etc.) and to gain support for the water trail. A steering committee is also recommended, which is made up of targeted stakeholders.
- **PFBC Water Trail Logo:** All designated water trails must use the water trail logo as developed by the PFBC. The top portion of the logo is a standard Pennsylvania Water Trail image. Local groups can customize the bottom portion of the logo within the bordered format.
- **Mapping and Signage:** Any maps provided in partnership with the PFBC as part of PFBC technical assistance must be distributed at no cost. Key access points should have trailhead signs. Other signage like interpretive signage and trail markers are desirable.
- **Local Government Notification:** As part of the public process, it is highly recommended that water trail organizers work with the local governments that are traversed by the trail. The purpose is both to notify and involve them in the development of the water trail. Local support is critical. Water trails benefit local governments so it is only logical that they should be involved. Also, if the local government is not involved at the outset of the project, there may be unforeseen conflicts as the trail goes into development.
- **Access Points:** For ease of use, water trails should have at least one access point every ten miles. These points must be able to accommodate boats appropriate for the water trail.
- **Management & Stewardship Commitment:** There must be a local group who is willing to sign a Water Trail Partnership Agreement with the PFBC. The agreement is for a length of five years and includes specific agreements about signage, mapping, roles of the local group and the PFBC, stewardship goals, etc.
- **Safety Information:** Managers of water trails have a responsibility to provide safety information and to warn of hazards. No waterway is completely safe. However, by providing pertinent information about the waterway and good safety tips, hazardous conditions can be addressed appropriately. For example, users may be asked to portage around a particularly hazardous area.

Upon identifying potential opportunities for water trails in the North Central Pennsylvania region, the steering committee came to consensus on criteria, which would be utilized to prioritize the proposed corridors that were identified.

## WATER TRAIL PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

Each of the proposed water trail corridors were assigned a value between zero and five in each of the categories, with the exception of being associated with a North Central Core System, which received a value of 10. The higher the value assigned to a given criterion, the more important contribution that criterion has towards the establishment of a water trail within the specified corridor.

- Connection / Extension of an Existing Water Trail: If the proposed corridor connects to or extends an existing water trail the higher the value.
- Trail Demand: Ranked based general size a population of the communities which the corridor passes through.
- Connectivity: Ranked based on the number and size of communities which the corridor passes through.
- Economic Development Potential: Size, character, and vibrancy of main street, and projected number of users associated with the trail corridor.
- Associated with Proposed Trail Town: Ranked based on association with a proposed trail town as identified within this study.
- Number of Counties the Corridor Passes Through: Cumulative value of the total number of counties which the corridor passes through.
- Association with North Central Community and Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) Core Systems

Four priority levels were established based on four equal intervals. They include:

- Proposed Vital Water Trails (1)
- Proposed Exceptional Water Trails (6)
- Proposed Significant Water Trails (8)
- Proposed High Priority Water Trails (2)

Based on this analysis, the following corridors are proposed to be further explored and investigated to determine their potential to be officially designated as Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Water Trails.

The North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan

Potential Water Trails	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Clearfield County Ranking	Cameron County Ranking	Elk County Ranking	Jefferson County Ranking	McKean County Ranking	Potter County Ranking	Priority
Upper Allegheny River					X	X	5	3	5	5	4	3	10	35	1					1	1	Vital
Sinnemahoning Creek	X						5	3	5	3	0	1	10	27	2	1						Exceptional
Pine Creek						X	0	3	5	5	1	2	10	26	3-1						2	
Redbank Creek				X			5	3	3	3	1	1	10	26	3-2			1				
Clearfield Creek		X					5	3	3	3	1	1	10	26	3-3	1						
Sandy Lick Creek				X			3	3	3	3	1	1	10	24	4			2				
Little Toby Creek			X	X			3	3	1	3	1	2	10	23	5		1	3				
Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch	X						5	3	1	1	1	1	10	22	6-1	2						Significant
Anderson Creek		X					5	1	1	3	1	1	10	22	6-2	2						
Tunungwant Creek					X		0	3	1	5	1	1	10	21	7					2		
Redbank Creek, North Fork				X			3	1	1	3	1	1	10	20	8-1			4				
Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch	X		X				5	1	1	1	0	2	10	20	8-2	3	2					
Mahoning Creek				X			2	2	1	3	1	1	10	20	8-3			4				
Sinnemahoning Creek, First Fork	X					X	0	1	3	3	0	2	10	19	9	4					3	
Potato Creek					X		3	3	5	5	1	1	0	18	10					3		
Moshannon Creek		X					5	1	1	1	0	1	0	9	11-1	4						High
Chest Creek		X					5	1	1	1	0	1	0	9	11-2	4						

All of the proposed water trail corridors are important to the North Central Pennsylvania Region. The vital priority should be advanced through regional efforts and partnerships. Exceptional, Significant, and High priority corridors should be advanced at the County level and with local partners.

## PROPOSED WATER TRAILS

Water trails provide recreation and transportation opportunities within the North Central Pennsylvania region. Towards that end, it is recommended that consideration be given to evaluating the feasibility and establishing additional Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission designated Water Trails in the region.

Local partners should be identified to explore the potential of establishing, maintaining, and promoting designated water trails along the following seventeen proposed corridors in the North Central Pennsylvania region. These corridors are described in order of their priority. The descriptions include the location, length, connectivity and highlights of each Water Trail proposed for the North Central region.

Many of the descriptions of the proposed water trails described herein have been taken from the “Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania and Northern West Virginia”, published in 1991 by Weil and Shaw.

The water trails being proposed herein must be thoroughly explored and evaluated to determine their suitability to be developed and promoted as such. Water levels, snags, rapids, dams, and the skill of the paddlers themselves are some of the factors that determine whether a water trail can be navigated in a safe manner. A feasibility study should be conducted for each proposed trail to determine whether the respective water trail being proposed is suitable for the intended use.

Access points noted below are potential put in and take out locations. The ownership status of these locations is unknown and must be confirmed before they are utilized.

### *Proposed Vital Priority Water Trail Corridor*

- 1) **Upper Allegheny River Water Trail** – Potter and McKean Counties: The Upper Allegheny River Water Trail begins in Coudersport and travels north and west to the Allegheny Reservoir. The trip from Coudersport to Olean, New York is a scenic run through rural flat country. Access is limited in Coudersport due to sheer concrete channel walls. Potential access points for this water trail could be proposed in Coudersport, Port Allegany, and Eldred as well as along road crossings.

Approximate Length: 110 miles (42 miles from Coudersport to New York border).

Associated Municipalities: Roulette and Eulalia Townships as well as Coudersport Borough in Potter County. Annin, Eldred, and Liberty Townships as well as Port Allegany and Eldred Boroughs in McKean County.

### *Proposed Exceptional Priority Water Trail Corridors*

- 2) **Sinnemahoning Creek Water Trail** – Cameron County: This proposed water trail corridor begins in Driftwood Borough at the convergence of Driftwood and Bennett’s Branches of Sinnemahoning Creek and flows southeast to the mouth of Sinnemahoning Creek at the West Branch Susquehanna River in Clinton County.  
This water trail is proposed as part of a demonstration project in conjunction with Bennett’s Branch, Driftwood Branch, and First Fork.

Approximate Length: 15.5 miles (7.1 miles in Cameron County).

Associated Municipalities: Gibson and Grove Townships as well as Driftwood Borough.

- 3) **Pine Creek Water Trail** - Potter County: The Pine Creek water trail begins about 7.5 miles northwest of Galeton Borough at Barn Brook and runs southeast to the mouth of the Pine Creek at the West Branch Susquehanna River near Jersey Shore in Lycoming County. Potential access points could be proposed near the intersection of Route 6 and Route 449 and in Galeton Borough.

Approximate Length: 15.5 miles (7.1 miles in Cameron County).

Associated Municipalities: Pike and Ulysses Townships as well as Galeton Borough.

- 4) **Redbank Creek Water Trail** - Jefferson County: In the “Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania and Northern West Virginia”, Redbank Creek is documented as a canoeable stream from Brookville, Jefferson County, to its confluence with the Allegheny River at Rimer, in Clarion County.

With the recommendation of Brookville and Summerville as potential Trail Towns and the development of the Redbank Creek land based trail, these combined initiatives provide the potential for expanded economic development activities in Brookville and Summerville Boroughs.

*Redbank Creek – Brookville to Summerville – 10.5 miles, Jefferson County*

Canoeable early December through May. Do not put in above Brookville as there is a dangerous drop on the North Fork under U.S. Route 322.

Access Points:

- Junction of Sandy Lick Creek and North Fork Redbank Creek left bank
- At Summerville turn left/east on any road towards the river

*Summerville to New Bethlehem, Clarion County – 16.5 miles*

Access Points:

- At Summerville turn left/east on any road towards the river
- Heathville
- Mayport, Clarion County
- River right, above dam in New Bethlehem, Clarion County

Canoeable early December through late May.

Approximate Length: 54 miles (18.9 miles in Jefferson County).

Associated Municipalities: Beaver, Clover, and Rose Townships as well as Brookville and Summerville Boroughs.

- 5) **Clearfield Creek Water Trail** - Clearfield County: The Clearfield Creek water trail begins in Cambria County and flows north to the West Branch Susquehanna River east of Clearfield. This stream is rated class I-II based on American Whitewater standards. Potential access points in

Clearfield County could be proposed in Irvona, Coalport, Glen Hope, Madera, and at Kellytown and Old Erie Pike Roads.

With the recommendation of Coalport and Clearfield as potential Trail Towns and the development of the Madera to Dimeling Trail as well as the proposed Houtzdale Trail Extension West, these combined initiatives provide the potential for expanded economic development activities in Coalport and Clearfield Boroughs.



*Upper Allegheny River*

Approximate Length: 62.2 miles (45.4 miles within Clearfield County)

Associated Municipalities: Allegheny, Beccaria, Bigler, Boggs, Bradford, Knox, Lawrence, and Woodward Townships as well as Coalport, Glen Hope, and Irvona Boroughs.

- 6) **Sandy Lick Creek Water Trail** - Jefferson County: Sandy Lick Creek water trail begins in Falls Creek and heads west through Reynoldsville and state game land number 42 before ending at the confluence with Redbank Creek just east of Brookville. Potential access points for this water trail could be proposed in Falls Creek, Reynoldsville, the state game land, and at the confluence with Redbank Creek.

This is a pleasant wooded stream along a railroad. The upper half has occasional light rapids which become more frequent on the lower half of the trip.

With the recommendation of Falls Creek, Reynoldsville, and Brookville as potential Trail Town, these combined initiatives provide the potential for expanded economic development activities in the respective Boroughs.

Approximate Length: 20.5 miles

Associated Municipalities: Pine Creek and Winslow Townships as well as Falls Creek and Reynoldsville Boroughs.

- 7) **Little Toby Creek Water Trail** – Elk and Jefferson Counties: This proposed water trail follows the course of Little Toby Creek from Brockway Borough passing through state game land numbers 54 and 44 to the confluence with the Clarion River at Carman. Potential access points could be proposed in Brockway and at the confluence with the Clarion River.

With the recommendation of Falls Brockway as potential Trail Town as well as the existing Little Toby Creek Trail, these combined initiatives provide the potential for expanded economic development activities in Brockway Borough.

Approximate Length: 15.9 miles

Associated Municipalities: Snyder and Spring Creek Townships as well as Brockway Borough.

***Proposed Significant Priority Water Trail Corridors***

- 8) **Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch Water Trail** – Cameron County: The Driftwood Branch water trail runs from Emporium south to the confluence with Bennetts Branch at Driftwood. Potential Access points would be proposed in Emporium, Sterling Run, and Driftwood.

This water trail is proposed as part of a demonstration project in conjunction with Bennett’s Branch, First Fork, and the main stem of Sinnemahoning Creek.

Approximate Length: 19.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Gibson, Lumber, and Shippen Townships as well as Driftwood and Emporium Boroughs.

- 9) **Anderson Creek Water Trail** – Clearfield County: The Anderson Creek water trail begins near Anderson Creek on Route 153 and flows south to Curwensville. Approximately 12.2 miles of this water trail from the US Route 322 Bridge to the confluence with the West Branch Susquehanna River is a class II-III section of whitewater based on American Whitewater standards. Potential access points can be proposed in Anderson Creek, at the US 322 Bridge, and in Curwensville.

Approximate Length: 20.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Bloom, Houston, Pike, and Union Townships as well as Curwensville Borough.

- 10) **Tunungwant Creek Water Trail** – McKean County: The Tuna water trail begins near the 219 Bridge over Tunungwant Creek and flows north to the confluence with the Allegheny River in Allegany State Park, New York. Potential access points could be proposed at the 219 Bridge and Tuna Cross Road just south of the New York State Border.

Approximate Length: 3.7 miles (within McKean County)

Associated Municipalities: Foster Township and the City of Bradford.

- 11) **Redbank Creek , North Fork Water Trail** –Jefferson County: This proposed water trial runs from near Richardsville, north of Brookville, to Dr. Walter W. Dick Park in Brookville. This gem of a stream is clean and pristine throughout the run. The size is sufficient and the difficulty low enough so that paddlers can relax and soak up the beauty of the seven mile valley. The first two miles below Richardsville has a wide valley floor with meandering stream. Then, in a sharp loop the stream turns south and enters a shallow canyon that provides a beautiful valley. Most of the valley below this point is part of one estate, and paddlers should respect the property owner’s rights.

Approximate Length: 9.3 miles

Associated Municipalities: Eldred, Rose, and Warsaw Townships as well as Brookville Borough.

- 12) **Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch** – Cameron and Elk Counties: The Bennetts Branch water trail runs from Benezette, in Elk County to the confluence with Driftwood Branch at

Driftwood in Cameron County. Potential Access points would be proposed in Benezette, near the Grant Road Bridge off Route 555, and in Driftwood.

This water trail is proposed as part of a demonstration project in conjunction with Driftwood Branch, First Fork, and the main stem of Sinnemahoning Creek.

Approximate Length: 15.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Gibson Township and Driftwood Borough in Cameron County as well as Benezette Township in Elk County.

- 13) Mahoning Creek Water Trail** – Jefferson County: This proposed water trail begins at the Upper Bridge on Big Run just north of Big Run and flows east to the Allegheny River in Armstrong County. Potential Trail access points are the Upper Bridge in Big Run, the State Route 436 Bridge in Punxsutawney, and the Lower Valier Bridge in Valier.

Big Run (Upper Bridge) to Punxsutawney (SR 426 Bridge) – 10.9 miles, Jefferson County

The remains of an old dam, most of which is silted in, provides a four foot drop about a mile below the Cloe Bridge and another dam or pipeline crossing the stream another half mile down past the Cloe Bridge near the rail yards.

Punxsutawney (SR 426 Bridge) to Lower Valier Bridge – 9.5 miles, Jefferson County

This is very slow and winding section with six ox-bow loops meandering back and forth.

Approximate Length: 66.5 miles ( 19.8 miles within Jefferson County)

Associated Municipalities: Bell, Perry, and Young Townships as well as Big Run and Punxsutawney Boroughs.

- 14) Sinnemahoning Creek, First Fork** – Cameron and Potter Counties: The First Fork water trail begins just south of Austin and flows south through Wharton, Sinnemahoning State Park and in to Sinnemahoning Creek at Sinnemahoning. Potential Access points would be proposed at the 872 Bridge in Costello, Wharton, within Sinnemahoning State Park, and in Sinnemahoning.

This water trail is proposed as part of a demonstration project in conjunction with Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch, and the main stem of Sinnemahoning Creek.

Approximate Length: 25.2 miles

Associated Municipalities: Grove Township in Cameron County as well as Portage, Sylvania, and Wharton Townships in Potter County.

- 15) Potato Creek Water Trail** – McKean County: This proposed water trail begins in south east McKean County within state game land number 30 and heads north along Potato Creek to Smethport.

Members of the Potato Creek Trail Association met with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) in November of 2008 to discuss possible improvements such as boat ramps and picnic/camping areas along Potato Creek. Other topics of discussion at this meeting included the formulation of trail objectives, state assistance for trail improvements, and grants from the PFBC along with other state agencies.

According to the PFBC, the Potato Creek Trail Association has been successful in planning and developing the organizational structure required to qualify for commission assistance.

A feasibility study of the canoeable sections of this stream should be completed before further work is done to extend the water trail.

Approximate Length: 27.6 miles

Associated Municipalities: Keating, and Norwich Townships as well as Smethport Borough.

### ***Proposed High Priority Water Trail Corridors***

- 16) **Moshannon Creek Water Trail** – Clearfield County: The Moshannon Creek water trail begins near Munson on the Clearfield Centre County line and runs north to the confluence with the West Branch Susquehanna River south of Karthaus. This stretch of Moshannon Creek has been determined by American Whitewater to be a class I-II section. Potential access points along this corridor could be proposed at Casanova Road Bridge in Munson and Route 53 Bridge west of Moshannon,

Approximate Length: 25.7 miles

Associated Municipalities: Cooper Township.

- 17) **Chest Creek Water Trail** – Clearfield County: A section of the Chest Creek between just north of Ebensburg in Cambria County to the West Branch Susquehanna River has been determined by American Whitewater to be a class I-III section. Potential access points along this corridor could be proposed in Westover, near the intersection of 5 Points Road and Route 36 north of Westover, in New Washington, Curly Hurd Memorial Park in Newburg, and in Mahaffey.

Approximate Length: 40.3 miles (13.6 miles within Clearfield County)

Associated Municipalities: Bell, Burnside, and Chest Townships as well as Mahaffey, New Washington, Newburg, and Westover Boroughs.



## **BUILDING THE NETWORK – NATURAL SYSTEMS**

Natural systems greenways are those corridors whose primary function is conservation of unique natural infrastructure, including wetlands, steep slopes, floodplains, streams with exceptional value water quality, and habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals. These corridors consist of linear tracts of essentially undeveloped open space. Some low impact activity, such as trails or wildlife observation, may be acceptable in these corridors, but intense development may not be appropriate.

The process of developing the natural systems greenways network utilized a natural infrastructure approach in identifying the building blocks which provide essential functions and contribute to the region's well being. It is important to note that this process will not take away the rights of property owners, nor will it restrict development in the region. Instead, natural systems greenways will promote sustainable development, lower development costs, and reduce the burden of providing public services on local, county, and state governments.

An inventory of hydrologic resources, natural infrastructure, and ecological infrastructure was conducted to identify natural systems building blocks within the North Central region. It is from these building blocks that natural system greenway corridors were identified.

Natural infrastructure can be defined as an interconnected network of natural areas and other open space that helps to conserve natural ecosystem values and functions, sustains clean air and water, and provides benefits to people and wildlife. The way this plan differs from conventional approaches to land conservation and natural resource protection is that it will look at conservation in harmony with development. This approach will help communities develop with minimal stress on the sensitive natural resources in their area.

### ***THE BUILDING BLOCKS***

An understanding of the natural infrastructure of the North Central region is essential to developing a greenways plan. For example, sensitive riparian zones (streamside buffers) or steep slope habitats are candidates for natural systems corridors, while rivers and canoeable streams may provide opportunities for water trail development. These natural systems building blocks may also become important greenway destinations.

The following describes the building blocks considered in the natural systems greenways corridors analysis conducted for the North Central region.



*Kinzua Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridor, McKean County*

## HYDROLOGIC RESOURCES

The North Central Pennsylvania region is divided by three major watershed basins; (1) the Ohio Basin, (2) Susquehanna/Chesapeake Basin, and a small portion of the (4) Genesee Basin. These watershed basins consist of the following major watersheds:

### 1. Ohio Basin

#### *Upper Allegheny Sub-basin*

The Upper Allegheny Sub-basin 16 has a total drainage area of 4474 square miles. Known as the Upper Allegheny Subbasin, it includes the uppermost portion of the Allegheny River before it flows into New York and the portion of the Allegheny River between New York and Emlenton. The subbasin encompasses all of Warren County, much of McKean, Crawford, Venango, Forest, and Erie Counties, and portions of Potter, Elk, Cameron, Mercer, Clarion, and Butler Counties.

- Kinzua - Brokenstraw Creeks, Conewango Creek: This watershed has a total drainage area of 781 square miles. Known as the Kinzua - Brokenstraw Creeks Watershed, its major streams include Kinzua Creek, Brokenstraw Creek and Conewango Creek.
- Potato - Oswayo Creeks, Tunungwant Creek: This watershed has a total drainage area of 889 square miles. Known as the Potato - Oswayo Creeks Watershed, its major streams include Potato Creek, Oswayo Creek and Tunungwant Creek.
- Tionesta Creek, Hickory Creek: This watershed has a total drainage area of 710 square miles. Known as the Tionesta Creek Watershed, its major stream is Tionesta Creek.
- Sandy Creek, Scrubgrass and East Sandy Creeks: This watershed has a total drainage area of 445 square miles. Known as the Sandy Creek Watershed, its major stream is Sandy Creek.

#### *Central Allegheny Sub-basin*

The Central Allegheny Sub-basin has a total drainage area of 2930 square miles. Known as the Central Allegheny Subbasin, it includes the portion of the Allegheny River between Emlenton and Clinton. The subbasin encompasses almost all of Jefferson County, much of Clarion, Armstrong, Elk, and Indiana Counties, and portions of Butler, Forest, McKean, and Clearfield Counties.

- Upper Clarion River, Toby and Spring Creeks: This watershed has a total drainage area of 638 square miles. Known as the Upper Clarion River Watershed, its major streams include Toby Creek, East Branch Clarion River, West Branch Clarion River, and Spring Creek.
- Lower Clarion River, Piney, Mill and Deer Creeks: This watershed has a total drainage area of 618 square miles. Known as the Lower Clarion River Watershed, its major streams include Piney Creek, Mill Creek, Paint Creek, and the lower portion of the Clarion River.
- Redbank Creek, Bear and Sandy Lick Creeks, North Fork: This watershed has a total drainage area of 728 square miles. Known as the Redbank Creek Watershed, its major streams include Redbank Creek, North Fork Redbank Creek, and Sandy Lick Creek.

- Mahoning Creek, Mast Run: This watershed has a total drainage area of 444 square miles. Known as the Mahoning Creek Watershed, its major streams include Mahoning Creek and Little Mahoning Creek.
- Susquehanna/Chesapeake Basin

2. Upper West Branch Susquehanna Sub-basin

The Upper West Branch Susquehanna Sub-basin has a total drainage area of 2631 square miles. Known as the Upper West Branch Susquehanna Subbasin, it includes the West Branch Susquehanna River from its origins to just downstream of Sinnemahoning Creek. The subbasin encompasses almost all of Cameron County, much of Clearfield, Cambria, Centre, Elk, and Potter Counties, and portions of Indiana, Clinton, Blair, McKean and Jefferson Counties.

- Sinnemahoning Creek: This watershed has a total drainage area of 1034 square miles. Known as the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed, its major streams include Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennett Branch, and Driftwood Branch.
- Chest - Anderson Creeks: This watershed has a total drainage area of 501 square miles. Known as the Chest - Anderson Creeks Watershed, its major streams are Chest Creek and Anderson Creek.
- Clearfield Creek, Trout Run: This watershed has a total drainage area of 612 square miles. Known as the Clearfield Creek Watershed, its major stream is Clearfield Creek.
- Moshannon - Mosquito Creeks: This watershed has a total drainage area of 484 square miles. Known as the Moshannon - Mosquito Creeks Watershed, its major streams are Moshannon Creek and Mosquito Creek.

3. Genesee Basin and Sub-basin

Genesee Basin and Sub-basin has a total drainage area of 99 square miles. It includes the entire Pennsylvania portion of the Genesee River basin. The subbasin lies within Potter County.

- Genesee River: This watershed has a total drainage area of 99 square miles. Known as the Genesee River Watershed, this is the only State Water Plan watershed within the Genesee Subbasin.

**Special Protection Waters**

The six counties within the North Central region are traversed by just over 9,500 miles of streams in 182 subwatersheds. All of these tributaries wind through the terrain and empty into either: the Allegheny River, Genesee River, or West Branch of the Susquehanna River.

<b>Miles of Stream by County</b>		
<i>Source: DCNR</i>		
<b>County Name</b>	<b>Miles of Stream</b>	<b>% in State</b>
Cameron	717.77	0.86%
Clearfield	1,924.96	2.31%
Elk	1,559.33	1.87%
Jefferson	1,306.06	1.57%
McKean	1,900.09	2.28%
Potter	2,105.76	2.53%
<b>Regional Total</b>	<b>9,513.97</b>	<b>11.42%</b>

The Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 93 Water Quality Standards, designates streams with special protection water uses. One of these designated uses is Cold Water Fishery (CWF). A CWF supports fish, plants, and animals that best live and reproduce in colder temperatures. Many times, this classification is based on the presence of trout. High Quality (HQ) waters are defined as having long-term water quality which exceeds the levels necessary to support the propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife as well as recreation in and on the water. Of Pennsylvania’s 83,000 miles of streams, only about twenty-five percent are designated as HQ-CWF. Another designation is Exceptional Value (EV) stream. An EV stream, or watershed, constitutes an outstanding national, state, regional or local resource, such as:

- Waters of national, state, or county parks or forests;
- Waters which are used as a source of unfiltered potable water supply;
- Waters of wildlife refuges or state game lands;
- Waters characterized by the Fish Commission as "Wilderness Trout Streams;" and
- Waters of substantial recreational or ecological significance.

Within the six counties of the North Central Region, there are 108 designated EV streams and 518 High Quality Cold Water Fisheries (HQ-CWF).

*Cameron County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Brewer Fork
- Clear Creek (Elk)
- Cook Run
- Cooks Run
- Cowley Run
- East Branch Cowley Run (Cameron)
- Elk Fork (McKean)
- First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek
- Frenchmans Branch
- Lebo Branch
- Left Branch Cooks Run
- Little Clear Creek (Elk)
- Lushbaugh Run (Potter)
- Middle Branch Hicks Run
- Mud Lick Run
- Oviatt Branch (McKean)
- Right Branch Cooks Run
- Right Fork Beaverdam Run
- Sinnemahoning Portage Creek (McKean, Potter)
- South Branch Indian Run (McKean)
- Twelvemile Run (Clearfield)
- West Branch Cowley Run (Potter)

*Clearfield County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Cole Run
- Twelvemile Run (Cameron)
- Rogues Harbor Run

*Elk County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Byrnes Run
- Clear Creek (Cameron)
- Crane Run (McKean)
- Deible Run
- Little Clear Creek (Cameron)
- Mix Run
- Right Hand Fork
- West Branch Hicks Run (Cameron)

*Jefferson County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Beaver Meadow Run
- Bushley Run
- Craft Run
- Shippen Run
- South Branch North Fork Redbank Creek

*McKean County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Crane Run (Elk)
- Dempsey Run (Potter)
- Dronery Run
- Elk Fork (Cameron)
- Half Mile Run
- Left Branch Half Mile Run
- Little Joe Run
- Little Parker Run
- Minard Run
- North Branch Indian Run
- Oviatt Branch (Cameron)
- Panther Run
- Parker Run
- Pine Hill Run
- Railroad Run
- Right Branch Half Mile Run
- Sinnemahoning Portage Creek (Cameron, Potter)
- South Branch Cole Creek
- South Branch Indian Run (Cameron)
- Wolf Run

*Potter County - Exceptional Value Streams*

- Bailey Run
- Bell Branch
- Big Run
- Birch Run
- Boedler Branch
- Bolich Run
- Boone Run
- Bunnell Run
- Calhoun Branch
- Cherry Run
- County Line Run
- Cow Run
- Cross Fork
- Darling Run
- Dempsey Run (McKean)
- Dyke Run
- East Branch Cowley Run (Cameron)
- East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek
- Elk Lick Run
- Elm Camp Run
- Face Run
- Fee Run
- Francis Branch
- Germania Branch
- Gravel Lick Run
- Hammersley Fork
- Hopper Run
- Indian Run
- John Summerson Branch
- Johnson Brook
- Kettle Creek
- Kortz Run
- Lechler Branch
- Left Branch Leib Run
- Left Branch Lushbaugh Run
- Leib Run
- Little Indian Run
- Little Kettle Creek
- Little Lyman Run
- Long Run
- Lushbaugh Run (Cameron)
- Miller Run
- Nelson Branch
- Ole Bull Run
- Pine Creek
- Right Branch Bailey Run
- Right Branch Big Nelson Run
- Right Branch Lushbaugh Run
- Right Fork Green Branch
- Sawmill Run
- Short Run
- Silver Run
- Sinnemahoning Portage Creek (Cameron, McKean)
- Sliders Branch
- South Branch Oswayo Creek
- Stony Lick Run
- Straight Run
- West Branch Cowley Run (Cameron)
- West Branch Whitney Creek
- Whitney Creek
- Windfall Run
- Wingerter Run
- Yochum Run

Having an HQ-CWF or EV stream in a community will not stop development from occurring, but rather it will insist that new or enlarging activities do not degrade the existing water quality. This usually entails a more rigorous permit review by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) before any new development is allowed to proceed and usually means individual permits need to be acquired rather than a general permit.

Additionally, being characterized as a HQ-CWF or EV stream may also have positive influences on a surrounding community. The presence of an HQ or EV designation improves a community's odds of attaining funding for upgrading local infrastructure, such as sewage treatment facilities and road maintenance.

### ***Class A Wild Trout Streams***

Class A streams support a population of wild (natural reproduction) trout of sufficient size and abundance to support a long-term and rewarding sport fishery. These streams are not stocked by the Fish Commission. Within the counties of the North Central region, there are a total of 96 streams designated as Class A. The majority of these streams are found in Cameron and Potter County.

### ***Wilderness Trout Streams***

Wilderness trout streams provide a wild trout fishing experience in a remote, natural, and unspoiled environment where man's disruptive activities are minimized. This designation was established in 1969 to protect and promote native (brook trout) fisheries, creating the ecological requirements necessary for natural reproduction of trout and wilderness aesthetics. The superior quality of these watersheds is considered an important part of the overall angling experience on wilderness trout streams. Therefore, all stream sections included in this program qualify for the Exceptional Value (EV) special protected water use classification, which represents the highest protection status provided by the DEP. The counties within the North Central region have a total of 29 streams designated as Wilderness Trout Streams.

### ***Wenger Riparian Buffer***

Areas delineated by this data set represent riparian regions of streams, wetlands, and rivers for both water quality protection and habitat. The areas of this buffer are based on extensive modeling using methods developed by Seth Wenger in "A Review of Scientific Literature on Riparian Buffer Width, Extent and Vegetation". The purpose of this model was to delineate the area of land with the greatest influence on water quality. The mapping of the buffers was prepared by the PNHP.

### ***Least Disturbed Streams (LDS)***

These streams were identified as part of the Pennsylvania Aquatic Communities Classification (ACC) Project undertaken by the PNHP in 2007. LDS reaches were chosen to identify areas for conservation efforts and to select aquatic habitats that can serve as benchmarks for restoration of degraded streams. These high quality stream segments were identified because they have minimal disturbance from human influences and demonstrate ecological function.

### ***ACC Watershed Conservation Tier #1***

These watersheds were identified as part of the Pennsylvania Aquatic Communities Classification Project undertaken by the PNHP in 2007. Tier #1 indicates that the watershed is in the 90th percentile or greater, representing the top 10% of all stream reaches in the state.

### ***ACC Watershed Conservation Tier #2***

These watersheds were identified as part of the Pennsylvania Aquatic Communities Classification Project undertaken by the PNHP in 2007. Tier #2 indicates that the watershed is between the 80th and 90th percentiles.

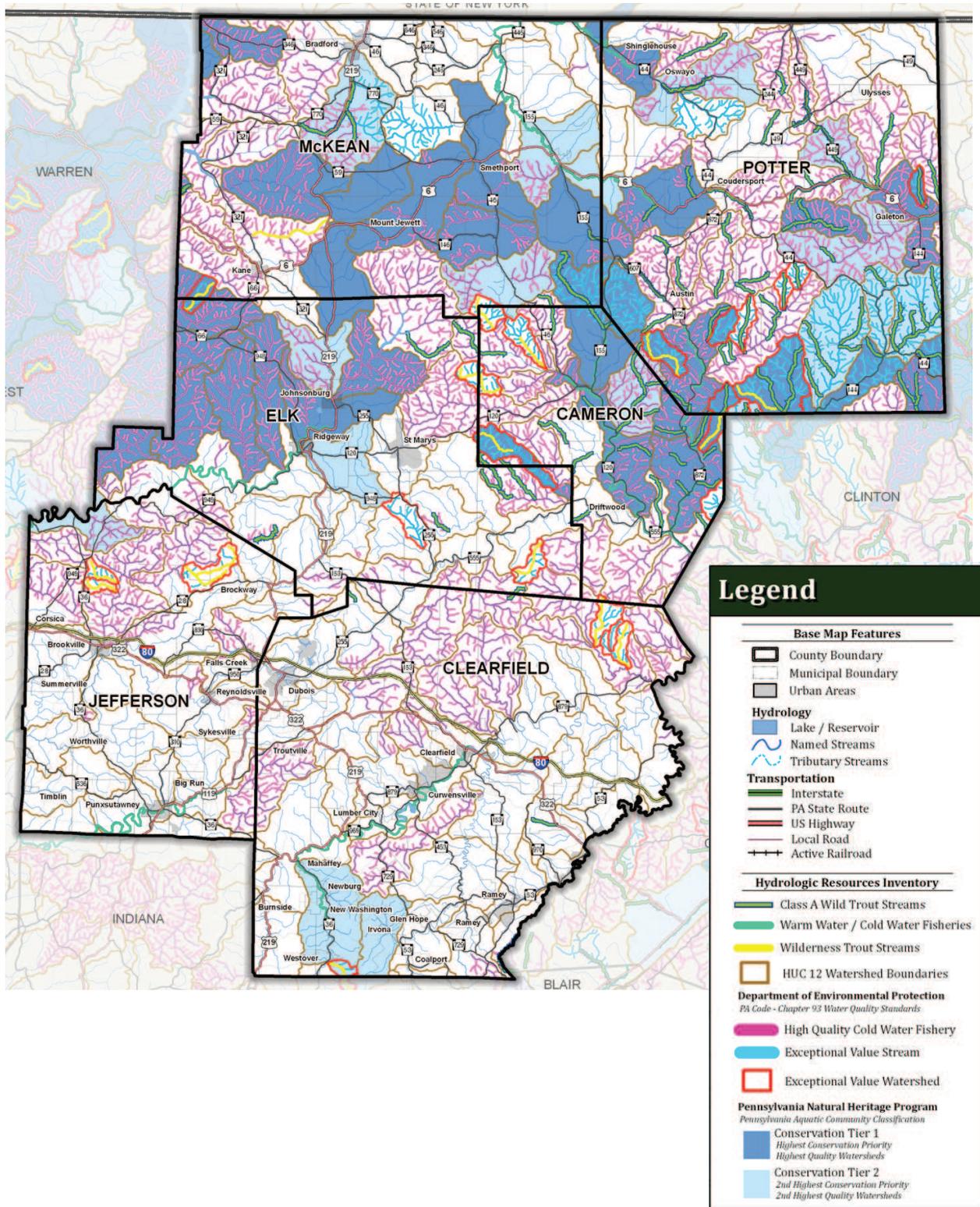
***Exceptional Value Watershed***

Identified in the PA Code Chapter 93, Exceptional Value Watersheds are the watersheds of exceptional quality waters. See the Exceptional Value Streams' description for more detail.

**HYDROLOGIC RESOURCES MAPPING**

Each of the hydrologic resources building blocks were mapped in a geographic information systems format. These files and associated maps are contained on the study document compact disc.

HYDROLOGIC RESOURCES MAP



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## NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### Wetlands

North Central Pennsylvania contains a little more than six percent of the state’s wetlands. These wetlands are divided among three classifications: Lake Edge (5,005 acres), Marsh Edge (32,354 acres), and River Edge (7,494 acres). Notable wetland areas can be found in numerous locations throughout the North Central region, especially within Clearfield, McKean, and Potter Counties.

<b>Acres of Wetland by County</b>					
<i>Source: NWI data &amp; Wetlands Center Data base, Penn State University</i>					
County Name	Lake Edge Acres	Marsh Edge Acres	River Edge Acres	Total Acres	% Statewide
Cameron	139.89	974.53	1,035.47	2,149.89	0.29%
Clearfield	1,429.99	6,011.75	3,343.47	10,785.21	1.48%
Elk	1,553.20	4,391.84	1132.21	7,077.25	0.97%
Jefferson	182.81	2,975.41	1,331.70	4,489.92	0.62%
McKean	1590.34	13,829.79	458.58	15,878.71	2.18%
Potter	108.31	4,170.33	193.04	4,471.68	0.61%
<b>Regional Total</b>	<b>5,004.54</b>	<b>32,353.65</b>	<b>7,494.47</b>	<b>44,852.66</b>	<b>6.15%</b>

These wetlands are home to many wetland plants and animals, as well as a source of food and nesting to the bird population of North America. More than 46% of U.S. endangered and threatened species need wetlands to live. In addition to sustaining habitat, wetlands are a necessary resource for the environment. Wetland soils absorb water from precipitation, and their plants slow the water’s flow, enabling wetland areas to hold and release the water slowly into streams. These benefits provide stormwater management and flood control functions. Natural wetlands also filter out sediment, chemicals, and fertilizer, cleaning the water before recharging groundwater and stream resources.

### 100-Year Floodplain

North Central Pennsylvania has many miles of floodplains bordering its rivers and streams. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) delineates floodplains for the nation through its floodplain management program. In Pennsylvania, the PA Code has regulations designed to encourage sound land use practices when planning for land use in floodplains. Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of people and properties within floodplains from floodwaters is essential. In addition, conserving and restoring the efficiency and carrying capacity of streams in Pennsylvania is a vital component to maintaining a sound ecological system.

Major floodplain areas in the North Central region exist in the following locations:

- Tunungwant Creek north of Bradford, McKean County
- Potato Creek, McKean County
- Allegheny River, McKean and Potter County

- Oswayo Creek, McKean and Potter County
- First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, Cameron and Potter County
- Sandy Lick Creek, Jefferson and Clearfield County
- Clearfield Creek near Glen Hope, Clearfield County
- Moshannon Creek north of Chester Hill, Clearfield County
- West Branch Susquehanna River several locations, Clearfield County
- Allegheny Portage Creek, McKean County
- Several streams in northern Cameron County

Numerous smaller floodplains line the banks of meandering stream valleys throughout the region.

### ***Interior Forest***

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Partnership (PNHP) provided mapping of large tracts of contiguous forest blocks throughout the state of Pennsylvania. Contiguous forest blocks offer enhanced habitat value over forested areas that may be fragmented by roads or other land uses. These forest blocks should be maintained as best possible to preserve habitat, protect water quality, and sustain flyways. For this study, forest blocks were reduced to include only Interior Forest areas. This was done by creating an interior buffer measuring 100 meters from the forest edge and removing it from each forest block.

The Interior Forest areas are important because they provide a home for plant and animal species that require the type of habitat that is isolated from other, non-forested areas. Interior Forest is defined as forested land cover that is at least 300 feet (approximately 100 meters) from non-forested land cover or primary, secondary, and local roads. Roads that are not wide enough to break the canopy of the forest are not excluded from these areas.

### ***Scored Forest Blocks***

Based on the PNHP Forest Patches (same source as the derived interior forest blocks) these forest patches are those greater than 100 meters that have been scored for a variety of ecological and biodiversity values. The metric includes elements, such as the number of forest types, wetlands, size, amount of interior, etc.

### ***Steep Slopes Greater Than Twenty-Five Percent***

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) created maps detailing the topography of the entire United States. From this mapping, a Digital Elevation Model (DEM) was created, which has been utilized to do a surface analysis of the counties in the North Central region. Utilizing this analysis, areas with slopes greater than twenty-five percent have been delineated as steep slopes. These areas are typically considered to be environmentally and structurally sensitive and should be conserved.

Soils in areas with steep slopes are generally unstable, which can result in landslides, causing safety concerns for communities. When disturbed, these unstable soils also create erosion and sedimentation problems, which can lead to the increased degradation of water quality downstream.

Steep slopes features are essential to the natural system. They contribute to open space networks, connect forested areas to water resources (protecting water quality), provide habitat for wildlife and vegetation, and provide travel corridors for animal and avian species.

Notable steep slope areas in the North Central region can be found throughout Cameron County as well as in eastern Elk County and southern Potter County.

### ***Hydric Soils***

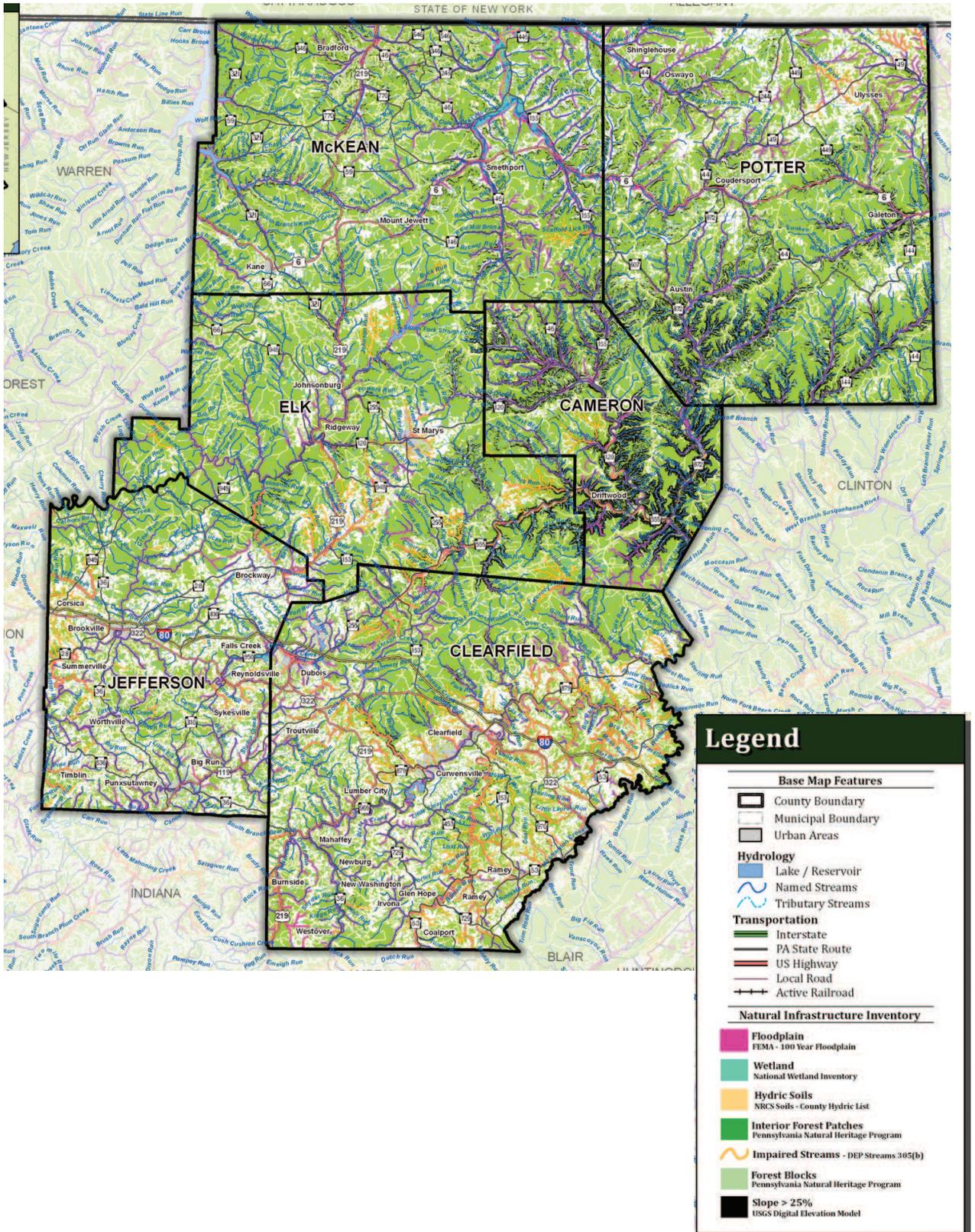
Hydric soils are key soil types for the purposes of greenway planning. Designated by the individual County Soil Surveys, these soils are sufficiently wet enough during the growing season to support the growth of wetland vegetation. It is generally recommended that development in or around hydric soils be done sensitively, so as to conserve the benefits they provide.

### **NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING**

Each of the hydrologic resources building blocks were mapped in a geographic information systems format. These files and associated maps are contained on the study document compact disc.

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NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAP



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## ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Ecological infrastructure consists of those areas in the region that contain rare, threatened, or endangered species, habitat, vegetative, and / or geologic resources of rare occurrence, important mammal areas, and important bird areas.

### *The Natural Heritage Program*

Another essential source of information about important habitat areas in the North Central region is the individual County Natural Heritage Inventories (CNHI). The CNHIs are projects undertaken by the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP), a partnership between the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the DCNR, the PA Fish and Boat Commission, and the PA Game Commission. The PNHP conducts inventories and collects data regarding the Commonwealth's native biological diversity. This data is also utilized for Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Reviews, which identify potential impacts to threatened, endangered, or rare plants; animals; natural communities; and geologic features throughout the state.

The CNHIs provide mapping and background information on the known outstanding flora, faunal, geologic, and scenic features of the region. These inventories are designed to inform residents of a county about their living heritage and give them a tool to use in planning the future of their communities.

The CNHI classifies natural areas within the region as Biological Diversity Areas (BDA) or Landscape Conservation Areas (LCA).

Biological Diversity Areas consist of two components, the core habitat area and the supporting landscape area. These are further defined as follows:

- *Biological Diversity Area - Core Habitat*  
A BDA is an area containing: 1) one or more locations of plants, animals, or natural communities recognized as a state or federal species (or natural community) of concern; or 2) high quality examples of natural communities or areas supporting exceptional native diversity.

The BDA Core Habitat areas are the essential habitat that cannot absorb significant levels of activity without substantial impact to the plants, animals, or unique natural communities of special concern contained within them. Core Habitats areas house species of special concern, possess a high diversity of plants and animals native to the region, or contain rare or exemplary natural community (assemblage of plants and animals). They include the highest quality and least disturbed examples of relatively common types of communities.

- *Biological Diversity Area - Supporting Landscape*  
The BDA Supporting Landscape is the area surrounding the core habitat that is necessary to maintain vital ecological processes or secondary habitat that may be able to accommodate some types of lower level impacts. Activities within the Supporting Natural Landscape should be conducted with the needs of the Core Habitats in mind.

Landscape Conservation Areas are defined as a large contiguous area that is important because of its size, open space and habitats, and / or the inclusion of one or more BDAs. Although including many different land uses, an LCA typically has not been heavily disturbed and thus retains much of its natural character.

Natural areas, or “areas of significance” as they are deemed by the CNHI such as Core BDA’s, Supporting BDA’s, and LCA’s, are ranked according to their significance to the conservation of biodiversity and ecological integrity of the region. These sensitivity rankings were used in the corridor criteria ranking for proposed natural systems greenways.

At the time of this study, the PNHP provided CNHI data in accordance with the level of study they have completed at that time. This includes completed CNHI reports and data for:

- Clearfield County
- Elk County
- McKean County
- Potter County

Furthermore, the following CNHI were in progress. Therefore, the PNHP provided a draft of the CNHI data based on historical data and supplemented with field work when available:

- Cameron County
- Jefferson County

### ***Important Bird Areas (IBA)***

Important Bird Areas (IBAs) have been designated by the Audubon Society in over 80 locations across the state and include more than 1 million acres. Combined, IBAs encompass approximately 3.5% of the state of Pennsylvania.

According to the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Audubon Society (Audubon Pennsylvania), “to qualify as an IBA, a site must meet at least one of four criteria, each associated with a different type of vulnerability. It must support: (1) endangered or threatened species; (2) species that are not widely distributed; (3) species that are restricted to a single extensive habitat or biome; or (4) high densities of congregating species, such as waterfowl or shorebirds.” Sites that are important flyways for migrating birds in spring and fall may also qualify as IBAs. Further information on IBAs, including interactive mapping, is available at <http://pa.audubon.org/iba>.

There are five IBA’s at least partially located within the six-county North Central region:

1. Black Moshannon State Park & State Forest IBA: Elk, Cameron, and Clearfield Counties
2. Callen Run Research IBA: Jefferson County
3. Cook Forest State Park IBA: Jefferson County
4. Quehanna Wild Area IBA: Cameron, Clearfield, and Elk Counties
5. Tionesta Scenic and Research Natural Area: McKean County

### ***Important Mammal Areas (IMA)***

Important Mammal Areas are designated around habitats that support rare mammals; diverse mammal communities; unique populations of mammals; and large aggregations of certain mammal species, as well as sites that are important for educating the public about natural history of resident mammals.

Due to the rapid development of land that previously served as habitat for mammals in the state of Pennsylvania, a program was started, in 2002, to conserve these habitats using financial support from the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Account. An offshoot of the Important Bird Area concept, the Important Mammal Areas Program has set out to identify areas that provide a critical habitat for mammals whose success rate has been strained by the disturbance or loss of habitat. The goal is to then have these areas be taken on by private conservation agencies and government organizations as areas to be conserved. More information can be found at: <http://www.pawildlife.org/imap.htm>

There are two IMA's at least partially located within the six-county North Central region:

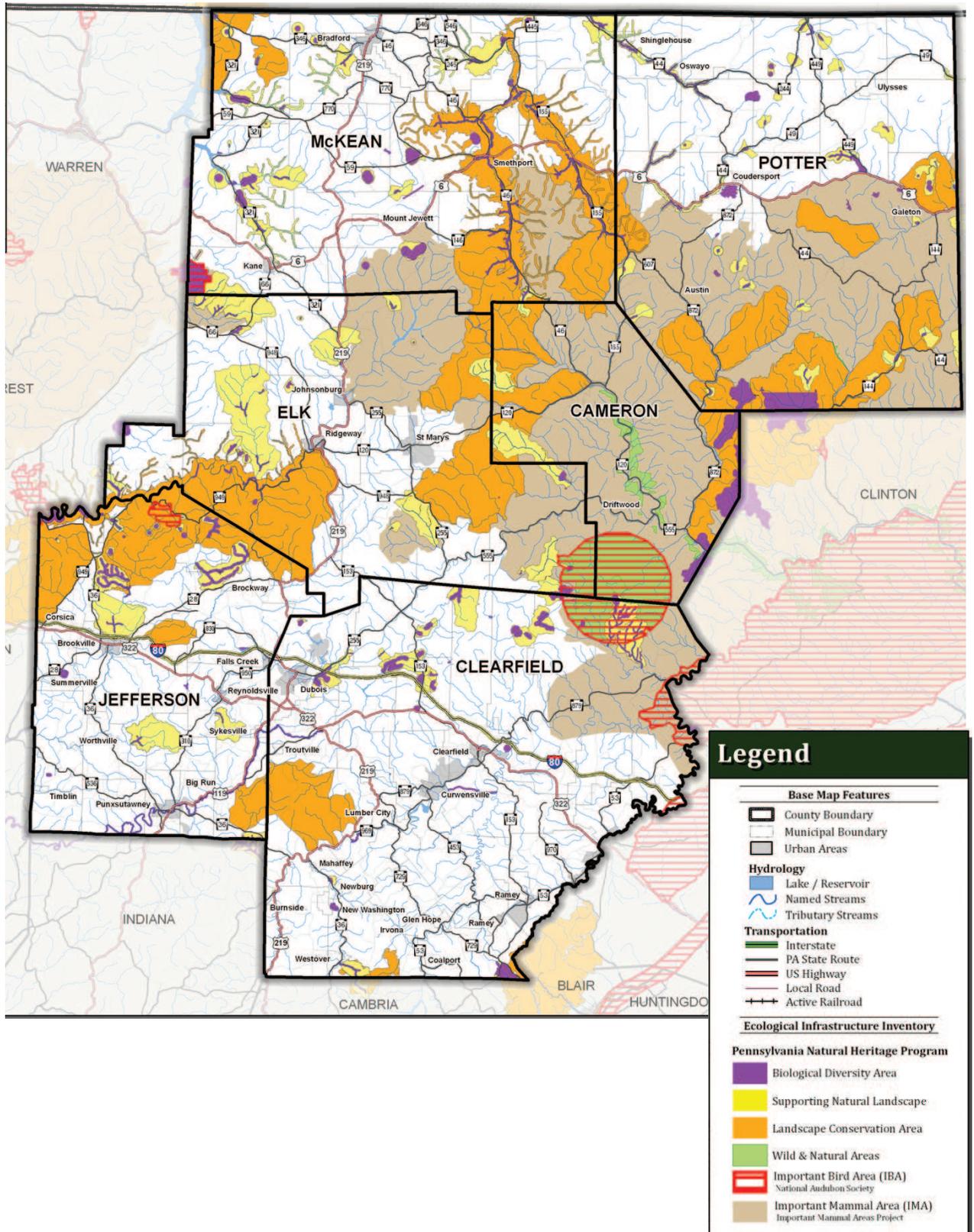
1. Hickory Creek and Tionesta Creek Drainage IMA: Elk and McKean Counties
2. Northern Allegheny Plateau: Cameron, Elk, Clearfield, Potter, and McKean Counties

### ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING

Each of the hydrologic resources building blocks were mapped in a geographic information systems format. These files and associated maps are contained on the study document compact disc.

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ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAP



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## **DEFINING THE NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDORS**

By its very nature the North Central Pennsylvania region is very green. It has the least density of population, a high concentration of National and State forest land, many state parks, and large parcels being managed for timber production. It was the goal of the project steering committee to recommend natural system corridors in those areas of the region that contain a high occurrence of natural, ecological, and hydrologic infrastructure building blocks. Areas which include multiple building blocks generally represent those areas that contain the most sensitive natural systems within the region.

### *IDENTIFYING THE NATURAL SYSTEM GREENWAY CORRIDORS*

Upon inventorying the region's natural infrastructure, ecological infrastructure, and hydrologic resources the project steering committee selected and weighted natural systems building blocks according to their significance toward achieving the vision of the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan. The following table identifies those building blocks and their assigned values.



NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDOR CRITERIA

less  
value

greater  
value



**Ranking Criteria**

Component	Value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. BDA Core										
2. National Wetland Inventory										
3. Steep Slope > 25%										
4. Floodplain										
5. Wenger Riparian Buffer										
6. BDA Supporting Landscape										
7. Exceptional Value Streams										
8. Wilderness Trout Streams										
9. Landscape Conservation Area										
10. Scored Forest Blocks										
11. Least Disturbed Streams (ACC)										
12. ACC Watershed Tier #1										
13. ACC Watershed Tier #2										
14. High Quality Cold Water Fishery										
15. Interior Forest										
16. Exceptional Value Watershed										
17. Hydric Soils										
18. Class A Wild Trout Streams										
19. Important Bird Area										
20. Important Mammal Area										

## THE PROCESS

The proposed natural systems greenway corridors were defined using a system of weighted values assigned to the respective building block as noted in the table above. Each building block was identified individually and overlaid on a map utilizing a geographic information system (GIS) process. Where more than one building block overlapped, their respective values were added together creating a cumulative value, sensitivity level. Areas with the highest total sensitivity level included the most building blocks, and thus merited inclusion in the natural systems greenways network. Corridors were then defined and named based upon their watershed association. Additionally, the sensitivity level of each corridor was used to establish priorities for each greenway corridor.

The mapping that resulted from this analysis identifies the proposed natural systems greenway corridors. The definition for a greenway corridor indicates they are to be contiguous linear corridors and provide connectivity between resources. The natural systems building block analysis also identified individual islands of resource elements. These outlying areas were eliminated as the draft natural system greenway corridors were refined so that the proposed natural systems greenway corridors would truly be linear in nature.

### Natural Systems Greenway Corridors

=

Hydrologic  
Infrastructure

+

Ecologic  
Infrastructure

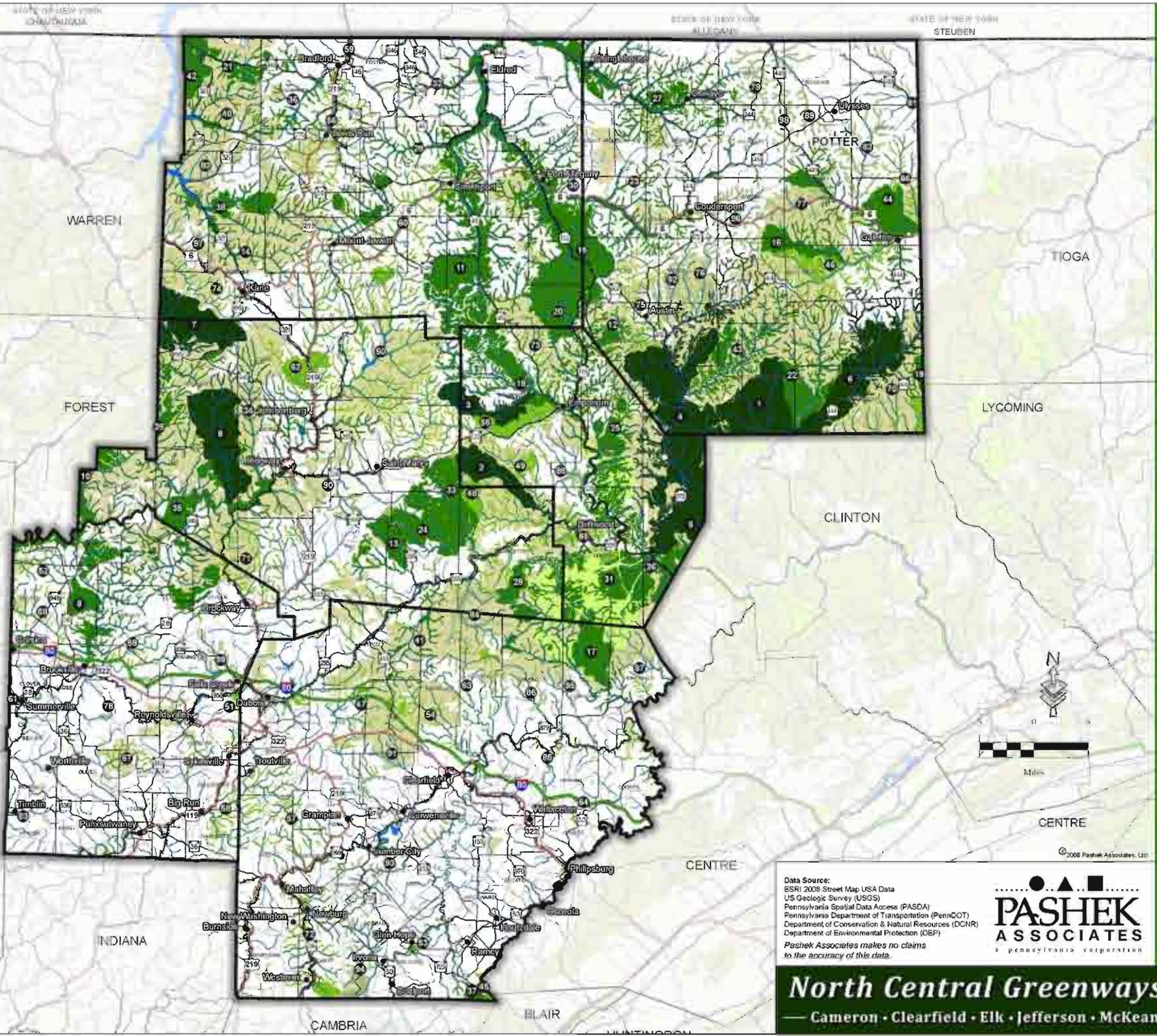
+

Natural  
Infrastructure



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# Location Map



### Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- Vital
- Exceptional
- Significant
- High

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.

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# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**North Central Pennsylvania**  
*Natural Systems Greenways*

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## **REGIONAL RANKINGS AND PRIORITIZATION**

Natural system greenway corridors were ranked according to their sensitivity level. Those with a higher sensitivity value being ranked higher than those with lower sensitivity values. Once ranked, the corridors were then prioritized into four categories. These categories were determined by dividing the ranked results into the following categories based on the natural breaks in the sensitivity level values.

- *Proposed Vital Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

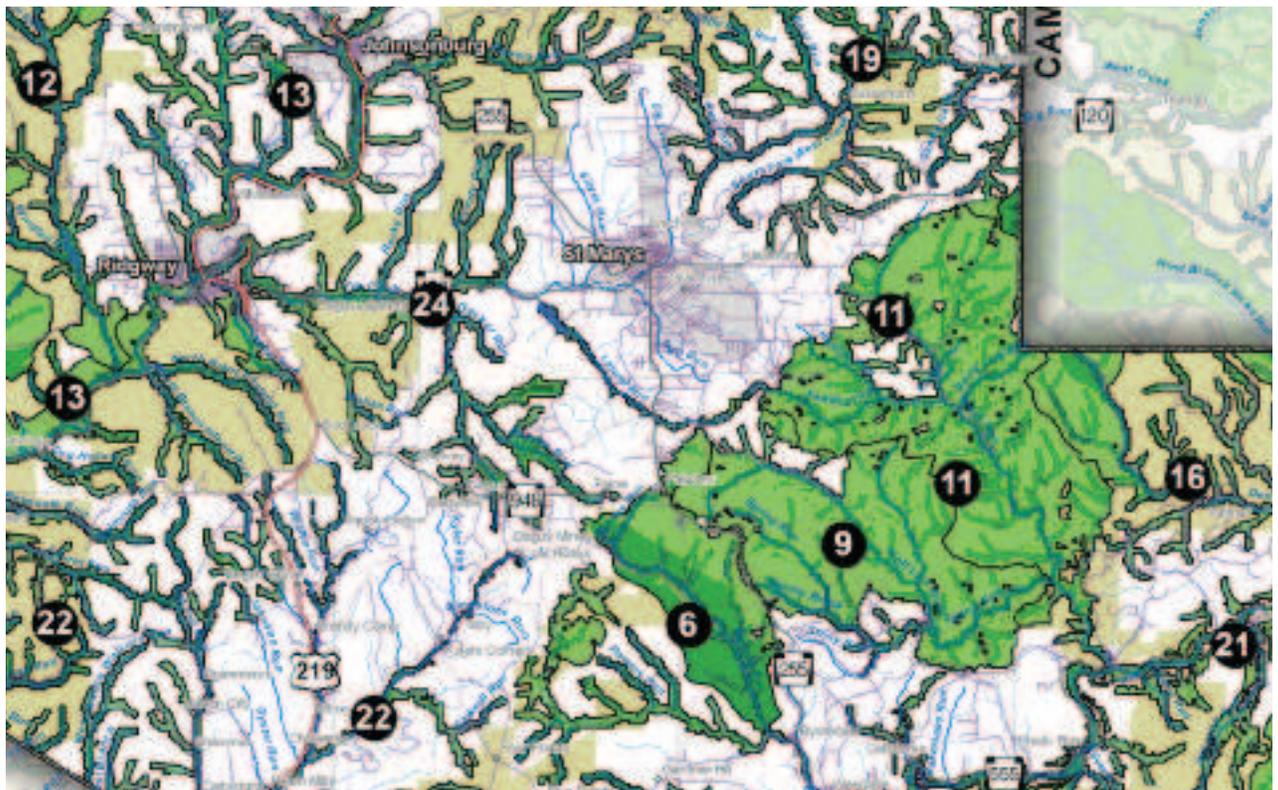
Proposed vital priority natural systems greenway corridors are multi-county corridors that contain the highest concentration of natural infrastructure elements.

- *Proposed Exceptional Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

Proposed exceptional priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that generally contain a high concentration of natural infrastructure elements. Many are located on the fringes of the vital priority corridors, and they also occur in locations which support conservation of vital priority corridors.

- *Proposed Significant Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

- The proposed significant priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are situated in locations that support the conservation of exceptional priority corridors.



- Proposed High Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors

The proposed high priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that generally contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are located in locations that support the conservation of significant priority corridors

<i>Regional Priority</i>	<i>No.</i>
1) Vital Priority .....	8
2) Exceptional .....	37
3) Significant .....	31
4) High .....	24

The following tables identifies the following information for each of the proposed natural system greenway corridors:

- Name of the proposed natural system greenway corridors
- Regional ranking and priority
- Percent currently being managed for conservation
- Percent currently not being managed for conservation
- Associated managed lands
- County ranking and priority

**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan**  
*Region-Wide Natural Systems Corridor Priorities*

Regional Rank	Greenway Name	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Cameron County Rank	Clearfield County Rank	Elk County Rank	Jefferson County Rank	McKean County Rank	Potter County Rank	Regional Priority			
1	Hammersley Fork						X	39.88	18,642	18,642	100.00%	-	-	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area							1	Vital		
2	Hicks Run			X				33.23	2,909	2,590	89.03%	319	10.97%	Elk State Forest, Pine Tree Trail Nature Area			1							
2	Hicks Run	X						33.23	7,273	7,227	99.37%	46	0.63%	Elk State Forest, State Game Land #14	1									
3	Clear Creek			X				28.76	2,851	-	-	2,851	100.00%			2								
3	Clear Creek	X						28.76	6,936	1,203	17.34%	5,733	82.66%	Elk State Forest	2									
4	First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek						X	28.39	37,020	28,855	77.94%	8,165	22.06%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Sinnemahoning State Park							2			
4	First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	X						28.39	26,768	23,847	89.09%	2,921	10.91%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run, Sinnemahoning State Park, Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest	3									
5	Cooks Run (Cameron/Clinton County)	X						27.77	2,757	2,706	98.15%	51	1.85%	Sproul State Forest, Elk State Forest	4									
6	Kettle Creek						X	27.20	32,790	26,962	82.23%	5,828	17.77%	Susquehannock State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Sinnemahoning State Park, Ole Bull State Park							3			
6	Kettle Creek	X						27.74	429	398	92.77%	31	7.23%	Sproul State Forest, Elk State Forest	5									
7	South Branch Tionesta Creek					X		27.57	6,484	5,581	86.07%	903	13.93%	Allegheny National Forest							1			
7	South Branch Tionesta Creek			X				25.57	12,455	10,413	83.60%	2,042	16.40%	Allegheny National Forest			3							
8	Bear Creek			X				27.33	22,475	21,835	97.15%	640	2.85%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Land #28			4							
9	North Fork Redbank Creek				X			25.81	24,126	5,975	24.77%	18,151	75.23%	State Game Land #54, Clear Creek State Forest				1						
10	Millstone Creek			X				25.69	5,883	5,758	97.88%	125	2.12%	Allegheny National Forest			5							
11	Potato Creek					X		25.64	44,494	5,196	11.68%	39,298	88.32%	State Game Lands #301 and #30, Elk State Forest							2			
11	Potato Creek	X						25.64	755	-	-	755	100.00%		6									
12	Cowley Run						X	25.11	6,275	5,451	86.87%	824	13.13%	Elk State Forest, Sizerville State Park								4		
12	Cowley Run	X						25.11	599	449	74.96%	150	25.04%	Elk State Forest, Sizerville State Park	7									
13	Kersey Run			X				24.91	7,963	1,763	22.14%	6,200	77.86%	Elk State Forest			6							
14	South Branch Kinzua Creek					X		24.90	5,731	4,104	71.61%	1,627	28.39%	Allegheny National Forest							3			
15	Allegheny Portage Creek						X	24.65	6,304	4,393	69.69%	1,911	30.31%	Susquehannock State Forest								5		
15	Allegheny Portage Creek					X		24.65	18,030	1,429	7.93%	16,601	92.07%	State Game Land #61, Susquehannock State Forest							4			
16	Lyman Run						X	24.59	32,790	26,962	82.23%	5,828	17.77%	Susquehannock State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Tioga State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Lyman Run State Park								6		
17	Mosquito Creek			X				24.43	2,635	2,635	100.00%	-	-	State Game Land #34, Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest			7							

**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan**  
*Region-Wide Natural Systems Corridor Priorities*

Regional Rank	Greenway Name	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)						Regional Priority		
														Cameron County Rank	Clearfield County Rank	Elk County Rank	Jefferson County Rank	McKean County Rank	Potter County Rank			
17	Mosquito Creek		X					24.43	17,450	15,633	89.59%	1,817	10.41%	Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest, State Game Land #34		1						Exceptional
17	Mosquito Creek	X						24.43	1,071	1,071	100.00%	-	-	Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest, Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area	8							
18	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek					X		23.97	1,681	492	29.27%	1,189	70.73%	State Game Land #30						5		
18	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek			X				23.97	2,251	261	11.59%	1,990	88.41%	Elk State Forest			8					
18	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	X						23.97	22,771	9,849	43.25%	12,922	56.75%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run, Johnson Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, State Game Land #30	9							
19	Slate Run						X	23.94	2,039	2,039	100.00%	-	-	Susquehannock State Forest, Tiadaghton State Forest, Tioga State Forest						7		
20	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek						X	23.86	1,355	765	56.46%	590	43.54%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest						8		
20	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek					X		23.86	11,467	325	2.83%	11,142	97.17%	State Game Land #30, Elk State Forest						6		
20	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek	X						23.86	9,973	3,710	37.20%	6,263	62.80%	Elk State Forest	10							
21	Willow Creek					X		23.75	9,101	6,995	76.86%	2,106	23.14%	Allegheny National Forest						7		
22	Cross Fork						X	23.74	15,569	14,933	95.91%	636	4.09%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area						9		
23	Fishing Creek						X	23.71	2,320	-	-	2,320	100.00%							10		
24	Spring Run			X				23.68	11,371	2,630	23.13%	8,741	76.87%	Elk State Forest			9					
25	Hunts Run						X	23.63	579	537	92.75%	42	7.25%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest						11		
25	Hunts Run	X						23.63	9,163	6,842	74.67%	2,321	25.33%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Elk State Forest	11							
26	Sinnemahoning Creek	X						23.39	11,860	8,105	68.34%	3,755	31.66%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Lower Jerry Run Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	12							
27	Oswayo Creek						X	23.39	26,745	1,073	4.01%	25,672	95.99%	State Game Land #204						12		
27	Oswayo Creek					X		23.39	5,629	-	-	5,629	100.00%							8		
28	Cole Creek					X		23.37	5,295	-	-	5,295	100.00%							9		
29	Mix Run			X				23.36	7,691	5,026	65.35%	2,665	34.65%	State Game Land #34, Marion Brooks Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest			10					
29	Mix Run	X						23.36	4,228	4,024	95.18%	204	4.82%	Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	13							
30	Allegheny River						X	23.33	14,270	639	4.48%	13,631	95.52%	Susquehannock State Forest						13		
30	Allegheny River					X		23.33	23,558	3,591	15.24%	19,967	84.76%	State Game Lands #61 and #301						10		
31	Wykoff Run	X						23.14	8,982	7,819	87.05%	1,163	12.95%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	14							
32	Knapp Creek					X		23.05	3,942	-	-	3,942	100.00%							11		
33	Trout Run (Elk County)			X				22.85	15,803	4,225	26.74%	11,578	73.26%	State Game Lands #14 and 311, Elk State Forest			11					

**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan**  
*Region-Wide Natural Systems Corridor Priorities*

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34	Big Mill Creek			X				22.78	5,962	5,109	85.69%	853	14.31%	Allegheny National Forest			12				Exceptional
35	Clarion River				X			22.74	12,641	9,321	73.74%	3,320	26.26%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Lands, #283, #54, and #45, Clear Creek State Forest, Cook Forest State Park, Clear Creek State Park				2			
35	Clarion River			X				22.74	25,410	15,071	59.31%	10,339	40.69%	Allegheny National Forest, Clear Creek State Park, State Game Lands #25 and #44			13				
36	West Branch Tunungwant Creek					X		22.67	6,082	452	7.43%	5,630	92.57%	Allegheny National Forest					12		
37	Muddy Run		X					22.58	2,616	580	22.17%	2,036	77.83%	Camp Wopsononock		2					
38	Kinzua Creek					X		22.42	24,485	13,183	53.84%	11,302	46.16%	Allegheny National Forest, Kinzua Bridge State Park					13		
39	Spring Creek			X				22.32	10,884	2,630	24.16%	8,254	75.84%	Allegheny National Forest and State Game Land #28			14				
40	Sugar Run					X		22.31	6,819	6,423	94.19%	396	5.81%	Allegheny National Forest					14		
41	Laurel Run			X				22.20	871	661	75.89%	210	24.11%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest			15				
41	Laurel Run		X					22.20	4,922	3,920	79.64%	1,002	20.36%	Moshannon State Forest, Parker Dam State Park		3					
42	Roper Hollow (Allegheny River)					X		22.15	3,363	3,363	100.00%	-	-	Allegheny National Forest					15		
43	East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek						X	22.10	15,310	13,423	87.67%	1,887	12.33%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area						14	
44	Pine Creek						X	21.99	20,211	9,492	46.96%	10,719	53.04%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest						15	
45	Moshannon Creek		X					21.58	5,822	330	5.67%	5,492	94.33%	State Game Land #100		4					
46	West Branch Pine Creek						X	21.58	13,091	6,879	52.55%	6,212	47.45%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest, Cherry Spring State Park						16	
47	Anderson Creek							21.47	7,315	2,382	32.56%	4,933	67.44%	Moshannon State Forest, State Game Land #93, S.B. Elliott State Park		5					
48	Dents Run			X				21.27	6,150	5,868	95.41%	282	4.59%	State Game Lands #14 and 311, Elk State Forest			16				
48	Dents Run	X						21.27	1,078	1,069	99.17%	9	0.83%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	15						
49	East Branch Hicks Run			X				21.08	753	637	84.59%	116	15.41%	Elk State Forest			17				
49	East Branch Hicks Run	X						21.08	3,352	2,510	74.88%	842	25.12%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	16						
50	East Branch Clarion River					X		21.05	6,971	647	9.28%	6,324	90.72%	Elk State Forest, Elk State Park					16		
50	East Branch Clarion River			X				21.05	13,440	8,586	63.88%	4,854	36.12%	State Game Land #25, Bendigo State Park, Elk State Park, Elk State Forest			18				
51	Sandy Lick Creek				X			21.03	4,504	646	14.34%	3,858	85.66%	State Game Land #244, Reynlow Park				3			
51	Sandy Lick Creek		X					21.03	4,747	40	0.84%	4,707	99.16%	State Game Lands #77 and #93		6					
52	Cathers Run				X			21.02	2,270	632	27.84%	1,638	72.16%	State Game Land #283				4			
53	Clearfield Creek		X					21.01	5,317	11	0.21%	5,306	99.79%	State Game Land #98		7					
54	Lick Run							20.93	3,952	2,264	57.29%	1,688	42.71%	State Game Land #90, Moshannon State Forest, S.B. Elliot State Park		8					
55	West Creek			X				20.92	7,477	925	12.37%	6,552	87.63%	State Game Land #25 and #293			19				
55	West Creek	X						20.92	8,072	2,368	29.34%	5,704	70.66%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	17						
56	East Branch Tunungwant Creek					X		20.83	10,776	1,946	18.06%	8,830	81.94%	Allegheny National Forest					17		

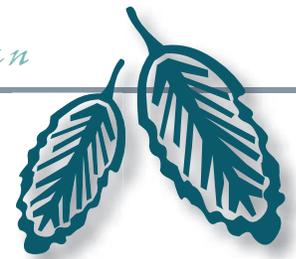
**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan**  
*Region-Wide Natural Systems Corridor Priorities*

Regional Rank	Greenway Name	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)					Regional Priority		
														Cameron County Rank	Clearfield County Rank	Elk County Rank	Jefferson County Rank	McKean County Rank		Potter County Rank	
57	West Branch Susquehanna River		X					20.79	18,776	1,330	7.08%	17,446	92.92%	State Game Land #87, Moshannon State Forest, S.B. Elliot State Park		9					Significant
58	Mahoning Creek				X			20.67	8,412	511	6.07%	7,901	93.93%	State Game Land #195				5			
58	Mahoning Creek		X					20.67	5,385	80	1.49%	5,305	98.51%	State Game Land #87		10					
59	Tunungwant Creek					X		20.56	1,653	-	-	1,653	100.00%							18	
60	Marvin Creek					X		20.18	10,564	101	0.96%	10,463	99.04%	State Game Land #62, Kinzua Bridge State Park						19	
61	Redbank Creek				X			20.33	2,098	-	-	2,098	100.00%					6			
62	West Branch Clarion River					X		20.18	4,952	-	-	4,952	100.00%							20	
62	West Branch Clarion River			X				20.18	12,253	718	5.86%	11,535	94.14%	Allegheny National Forest			20				
63	Trout Run (Clearfield County)		X					20.14	5,968	2,180	36.53%	3,788	63.47%	State Game Land #94, Moshannon State Forest		11					
64	Alder Run		X					20.01	1,226	-	-	1,226	100.00%			12					
65	Bennett Branch			X				19.93	8,060	3,451	42.82%	4,609	57.18%	Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest, State Game Lands #311 and #34			21				
65	Bennett Branch		X					19.93	4,118	2,172	52.74%	1,946	47.26%	Moshannon State Forest, State Game Land #93		13					
65	Bennett Branch	X						19.93	5,804	3,847	66.28%	1,957	33.72%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	18						
66	Phoenix Run					X		19.78	3,548	1,404	39.57%	2,144	60.43%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest						17	
67	Little Sandy Creek				X			19.61	3,416	1,133	33.17%	2,283	66.83%	State Game Land #31				7			
68	Mill Creek (Clarion County)				X			19.60	4,049	578	14.28%	3,471	85.72%	State Game Land #74				8			
69	Mill Creek (Jefferson County)				X			19.51	3,588	-	-	3,588	100.00%					9			
70	Young Womans Creek						X	19.44	5,323	5,202	97.73%	121	2.27%	Susquehannock State Forest, Tiadaghton State Forest, Sproul State Forest						18	
71	Little Toby Creek				X			19.42	3,920	1,503	38.34%	2,417	61.66%	State Game Lands #54 and #77				10			
71	Little Toby Creek			X				19.42	10,534	4,204	39.91%	6,330	60.09%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Land #44, Elk State Forest			22				
72	Chest Creek		X					19.42	10,669	28	0.26%	10,641	99.74%	State Game Land #120		14					
73	North Creek					X		19.28	448	446	99.55%	2	0.45%	State Game Land #30, Elk State Forest					21		
73	North Creek	X						19.28	3,662	1,567	42.79%	2,095	57.21%	Elk State Forest	19						
74	East Branch Tionesta Creek					X		18.98	6,971	647	9.28%	6,324	90.72%	Elk State Forest					22		
75	Freeman Run						X	18.97	6,862	3,143	45.80%	3,719	54.20%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest						19	
76	Big Moores Run						X	18.85	3,574	2,351	65.78%	1,223	34.22%	Susquehannock State Forest						20	
77	Ninemile Run						X	18.75	2,647	2,128	80.39%	519	19.61%	Susquehannock State Forest, Denton Hill State Park						21	
78	Fivemile Run				X			18.64	638	-	-	638	100.00%					11			
79	West Branch Genesee River						X	18.61	3,877	-	-	3,877	100.00%							22	
80	Chappel Fork					X		18.55	3,030	2,308	76.17%	722	23.83%	Allegheny National Forest					23		
81	Cowanesque River						X	18.11	1,801	-	-	1,801	100.00%							23	
82	Genesee Forks						X	18.08	5,068	-	-	5,068	100.00%							24	
83	Pine Run				X			18.05	550	-	-	550	100.00%					12			

**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan**  
*Region-Wide Natural Systems Corridor Priorities*

Regional Rank	Greenway Name	Cameron County	Clearfield County	Elk County	Jefferson County	McKean County	Potter County	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Cameron County Rank	Clearfield County Rank	Elk County Rank	Jefferson County Rank	McKean County Rank	Potter County Rank	Regional Priority	
84	Medix Run			X				17.99	1,898	1,822	96.00%	76	4.00%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest			23				High	
84	Medix Run		X					17.99	2,759	2,486	90.11%	273	9.89%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest		15						
85	Moravian Run		X					17.92	568	72	12.68%	496	87.32%	State Game Land #78		16						
86	Deer Creek		X					17.86	2,365	484	20.47%	1,881	79.53%	Moshannon State Forest		17						
87	Upper Three Runs		X					17.71	2,451	1,561	63.69%	890	36.31%	Moshannon State Forest, Quehanna Wild Area		18						
88	Sterling Run	X						17.56	3,028	246	8.12%	2,782	91.88%	Elk State Forest	20							
89	Genesee River						X	17.55	2,508	-	-	2,508	100.00%							25		
90	Elk Creek			X				17.34	6,756	1,546	22.88%	5,210	77.12%	State Game Lands #25 and #44			24					
91	Montgomery Creek		X					17.25	1,817	1,392	76.61%	425	23.39%	Moshannon State Forest		19						
92	South Woods Branch						X	16.23	3,549	1,436	40.46%	2,113	59.54%	Susquehannock State Forest						26		
93	Little Clearfield Creek		X					17.13	5,569	-	-	5,569	100.00%			20						
94	North Witmer Run		X					17.02	5,661	1,908	33.70%	3,753	66.30%	State Game Land #120		21						
95	Sandy Creek		X					16.88	1,316	239	18.16%	1,077	81.84%	Moshannon State Forest		22						
96	Mill Creek (Potter County)						X	16.23	4,674	114	2.44%	4,560	97.56%	Susquehannock State Forest						27		
97	Twomile Run					X		16.05	2,505	1,093	43.63%	1,412	56.37%	Allegheny National Forest						24		
98	Middle Branch Genesee River						X	15.94	2,351	-	-	2,351	100.00%							28		
99	Wolf Run			X				15.86	2,235	-	-	2,235	100.00%					13				

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## THE RESULTS

This analysis led to a recommendation of establishing 100 natural systems greenway corridors within the six counties of the North Central Pennsylvania region. These corridors are of regional and county significance. Local corridors, which contribute to conserving natural infrastructure at a municipal level, may further expand the proposed natural systems greenway network.

After the natural system greenway corridors were defined, the cumulative values of the building blocks within each corridor were calculated and divided by the total acreage of the corridor. The results of this calculation were used to assign a sensitivity level to each individual corridor. This was done to prioritize the corridors based on concentrations of natural system building blocks rather than on size of the corridor. The 100 proposed natural systems greenway corridors are summarized hereafter, according to their corresponding priority at the regional level.

### VITAL PRIORITY NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDORS

The proposed vital priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors containing the highest concentration of natural infrastructure elements. There are eight proposed natural system greenway corridors that have been classified as vital priorities in the region. These corridors are described briefly here:

- 1) **Hammersley Fork Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated in south central Potter County, this greenway is found along several streams in the Hammersley Fork watershed, including Bell Branch, Bunnell Run, County Line Run, Cow Run, Darling Run, and Nelson Branch. Also found within this corridor are the Hammersley Fork watershed BDA, the Hammersley Fork BDA and its supporting landscape, the John Summerson Branch Trout Run BDA, the Kettle Creek Watershed LCA, and the Hammersley Wild Area LCA.

Approximate Size: The Hammersley Fork Greenway encompasses approximately 18,600 acres and is as wide as 7 miles in some stretches. This greenway is 100% conserved within the Hammersley Wild Area and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: East Fork and Wharton Townships

- 2) **Hicks Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Elk Counties: This greenway is located in eastern Elk County and western Cameron County along Hicks Run, East Branch Hicks Run, Frenchmans Branch, Middle Branch Hicks Run, and West Branch Hicks Run. Also found within this corridor are the West Branch Hicks Run BDA, Pine Tree Trail Natural Area BDA, West Branch Hicks Run Conservation Area, and Boone Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is approximately 11 miles from where Hicks Run enters Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek to the area of the headwaters of West Branch Hicks Run. The entire greenway encompasses just over 2,900 acres, of which approximately 89.03% is conserved within Elk State Forest and Pine Tree Trail Natural Area.

Associated Municipalities: Benezette, Gibson, Shippen, and Spring Creek Townships

- 3) **Clear Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Elk Counties: The Clear Creek greenway is situated in eastern Elk County and western Cameron County along Clear Creek and several tributaries including Chop Run, Day Run, Gillis Bliss Run, Jenks Run, Little Clear Creek, Mud Run, Right Hand Fork, and Rocky Run. This corridor also contains portions of Upper Clear Creek BDA and its supporting landscape as well as Upper Clear Creek LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is 10 miles from the headwaters of Clear Creek to where it enters Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 9,800 acres, of which approximately 99.13% is not conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Jones, Shippen, and Spring Creek Townships

- 4) **First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Potter Counties: This greenway is located in eastern Cameron County and southwestern Potter County along First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek as well as several tributaries including Ayers Shanty Run, Bailey Run, Berge Run, Big Nelson Run, Borie Branch, Brooks Run, East Darian Run, East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, Elk Lick Run, Fivemile Run, Freeman Run, Gravelly Run, Indian Shanty Run, Left Branch Lushbaugh Run, Left Fork Brooks Run, Lick Island Run, Little Bailey Run, Logue Run, Lushbaugh Run, Mahon Run, Mill Run, Muley Run, Norcross Run, Owl Run, Pine Island Run, Prouty Run, Rattlesnake Run, Right Branch Bailey Run, Right Branch Lushbaugh Run, Right Fork Brooks Run, Schoolhouse Run, Short Bend Run, South Woods Branch, Thayer Run, Upper Logue Run, West Darian Run, and Woodrock Run.

This corridor also contains Cheery Springs Park BDA, Cooks Run Watershed BDA, North and South First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek BDA's, Lushbaugh Run Watershed BDA, and Montour Road Ridge BDA as well as the supporting landscapes of Moores Run and North and South First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek BDA's. Also found within this greenway are Bailey Run LCA, Birch Run LCA, Hammersley Wild Area LCA, Kettle Creek Watershed LCA, and Wharton LCA.

Additionally, at the time of this plan a county NHI had not yet been completed for Cameron County. It should be noted that additional BDA's, LCA's could be added upon completion of the NHI.

Approximate Size: This corridor is nearly 28 miles long from the headwaters of First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek to where it enters Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses more than 63,000 acres, of which approximately 99.37% is conserved within Sinnemahoning State Park, Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run Wild Area, and Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson, Grove, Homer, Lumber, Portage, Summit, Sylvania, and Wharton Townships

- 5) **Cooks Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: This greenway is situated in eastern Cameron County, encompassing the watershed area of the headwaters of Cooks Run. Also found within this corridor are portions of Cooks Run Watershed BDA and Wharton LCA.

Approximate Size: This corridor encompasses just over 2,700 acres. This greenway is 98.15% conserved within Sproul and Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Grove Township

- 6) **Kettle Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Potter Counties: The Kettle Creek greenway is situated in southeast Potter County along Kettle Creek and several tributaries including Boedler Branch, Calhoun Branch, Cherry Run, Cross Fork, Elm Camp Run, Face Run, Germania Branch, Hopper Run, Indian Run, John Summerson Branch, Long Run, Miller Run, Ole Bull Run, Right Fork Beaverdam Run, Right Fork Green Branch, Sawmill Run, Silver Run, Sliders Branch, and Straight Run.

Also found within this corridor are Hammersley Fork Watershed BDA, Lushbaugh Run Watershed BDA, Kettle Creek at Pipeline Hollow BDA, Kettle Creek at Rixford Hollow BDA, John Summerson Branch Trout Run BDA, Montour Road Ridge BDA, and Ole Bull State Park BDA. Additionally, the supporting landscapes of Kettle Creek at Pipeline Hollow BDA, Ole Bull State Park BDA, and Kettle Creek at Rixford Hollow BDA as well as the Kettle Creek Watershed LCA, Big Ridge LCA, Keeney Mountain LCA, Hammersley Wild Area LCA, and Wharton LCA are within this greenway. This corridor also extends along Kettle Creek Clinton County.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses more than 33,000 acres, of which approximately 82.36% is conserved within Elk State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Ole Bull State Park, Sinnemahoning State Park, Sproul State Forest, and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Abbott, East Fork, Grove, Stewardson, West Branch and Wharton Townships

- 7) **South Branch Tionesta Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and McKean Counties: This greenway is situated in northeast Elk County and southwest McKean County along the South Branch of Tionesta Creek and several of its tributaries including Coon Run, Crane Run, East Fork Run, Martin Run, West Fork Run, and Wolf Run.

Also included within this greenway are Martin Run BDA, Wolf Run BDA, Crane Run BDA, and Tionesta Natural Area, as well as the supporting landscapes of Wolf Run BDA, Crane Run BDA, and Martin Run BDA.

Approximate Size: This corridor is nearly eight miles from where South Branch Tionesta Creek enters McKean County to the headwaters of Wolf Run. The entire greenway encompasses close to 19,000 acres, of which approximately 84.45% is conserved within the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Highland, Jones, and Wetmore Townships

- 8) **Bear Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This greenway is located in western Elk County along Bear Creek and several tributaries, including Bloody Run, Crooked Run, Davidson Run, Italian Shanty Run, Little Bear Creek, Little Otter Creek, Maple Run, Pigeon Run, Pine Run, Pole Road Run, Red Lick Run, Shanty Run, and Twin Lick Run.

Also found within this greenway are Bear Creek BDA, Portland Mills BDA, Bloody Run Wetlands Complex BDA, and Upper Bear Run BDA. Additionally, the supporting landscapes of Bloody Run Wetland Complex BDA, Cole Run Wetland Complex BDA, Crow Run Wetland Complex BDA, Upper Bear Creek BDA, and Bear Creek BDA, as well as the Clarion River LCA are at least partially situated within this corridor.

**Approximate Size:** This corridor is close to 13 miles from the headwaters of Bear Creek to where it drains into the Clarion River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 22,000 acres, of which approximately 97.15% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest and State Game Land #28.

**Associated Municipalities:** Highland, Jones, Ridgway, and Spring Creek Townships

The eight vital priority natural system greenway corridors proposed here total 281 square miles, of which approximately 83.63% is conserved.

### ***PROPOSED EXCEPTIONAL PRIORITY NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDORS***

Proposed exceptional priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that generally contain a high concentration of natural infrastructure elements. Many are located on the fringes of the vital priority corridors, and they also occur in locations which support conservation of vital priority corridors. There are 37 proposed greenways that have been classified as exceptional priorities in the region. These corridors are described briefly here:

- 9) **Cooks Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: This greenway is located in northwest Cameron County along Cooks Run and several tributaries including Britton Run, Johns Run, Left Branch Cooks Run, and Right Branch Cooks Run.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is nearly 6 miles from the headwaters of Cooks Run to where it enters Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses over 5,700 acres, none of which is conserved.

**Associated Municipalities:** Shippen Township

- 10) **North Fork Redbank Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is located in northern Jefferson County along North Fork Redbank Creek and several tributaries including Acy Run, Bearpen Run, Beaver Meadow Run, Burns Run, Bushley Run, Clear Run, Clemens Run, Craft Run, Davis Run, Hetrick Run, Lucas Run, Mammy Hi Run, Manners Dam Run, Miller Run, Muddy Run, Pekin Run, Shippen Run, South Branch North Fork Redbank Creek, Sugar Camp Run, Swede Run, Tarklin Run, Williams Run, Work Run, and Yeomans Run.

Also found within this greenway is Craft Run BDA, Hays Lookout Tower BDA, Muddy Run BDA, Munderf Heron Rookery BDA, North Fork Sugarcamp Run BDA, Northfork BDA, South Branch North Fork BDA, and Spring Creek Road BDA. Additionally, the supporting landscapes of Callen Run Headwaters BDA, Craft Run BDA, Hays Lookout Tower BDA, Muddy Run BDA, and North Fork Sugarcamp Run BDA.

**Approximate Size:** This corridor is more than 18 miles from the headwaters of North Fork Redbank Creek to where it enters into Redbank Creek in Brookville. The entire greenway encompasses more than 24,000 acres, of which approximately 24.77% is conserved within Clear Creek State Forest and State Game Land #54.

**Associated Municipalities:** Eldred, Heath, Pine Creek, Polk, Snyder, and Warsaw Townships as well as Brookville Borough

- 11) **Millstone Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This proposed greenway is located in western Elk County along Millstone Creek and several tributaries, including East Branch Millstone Creek, Gregg Run, Gurgling Run, Jakes Run, Laurel Run, Lick Run, Log Run, Muddy Fork, Steck Run, Sugarcamp Run, West Branch Millstone Creek, and Winlack Run.

Also found within this corridor is Buzzard Swamp BDA, Loleta BDA, and Millstone Creek BDA, as well as the supporting landscape of Millstone Creek BDA and the Clarion River LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is more than 10 miles from the headwaters to where Millstone Creek enters the Clarion River. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 5,900 acres, of which approximately 97.88% is conserved in Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Millstone Township

- 12) **Potato Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and McKean Counties: Situated in eastern McKean County around Smethport, this greenway is found along Potato Creek and several of its tributaries, including Boyer Brook, Brewer Run, Cogsdell Brook, Cole Creek, Colegrove Brook, Daly Brook, Donely Fork, East Branch Potato Creek, Green Brook, Hamlin Run, Hand Brook, Havens Run, Indian Run, Lick Run, Long Run, Lost Run, Lyman Run, Marvin Run, Murdock Branch, North Branch Colegrove Brook, Panther Run, Pierce Brook, Pine Run, Railroad Run, Red Mill Brook, Rices Creek, Robbins Brook, Rocky Fork, Rocky Run, Short Run, South Fork West Branch Potato Creek, Taylor Field Branch, Walcott Brook, West Branch Potato Creek, and West Fork West Branch Potato Creek.

Also found within this greenway are Allegheny River at Larabee BDA, Coryville Railroad Grade BDA, Havens Run BDA, Potato Creek BDA, Potato Creek – Cole Creek BDA, and Smethport Upland BDA. Additionally, this corridor also contains the supporting landscape of Havens Run BDA, as well as Allegheny Wetlands Complex LCA, Elk River LCA, Keating Summit LCA, Potato Creek LCA, and Upper Allegheny River LCA, which are at least partially located within this greenway.

Approximate Size: This corridor is more than 21 miles from the headwaters of Havens Creek in Cameron County to where Potato Creek enters the Allegheny River north of Smethport. The entire greenway encompasses over 45,000 acres, of which approximately 11.48% is conserved within Elk State Forest and State Game Lands #301 and #30.

Associated Municipalities: Annin, Eldred, Keating, Liberty, Norwich, Otto, Sergeant, and Shippen (Cameron County) Townships as well as Smethport Borough

- 13) **Cowley Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Potter Counties: Situated in western Potter County and a small portion of eastern Cameron County, this greenway is located along Cowley Run, East and West Branch Cowley Run, and Fee Run. Also found within this corridor are portions of East Branch Cowley Run BDA and Keating Summit BDA as well as their supporting landscapes.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses more than 6,800 acres, of which approximately 85.83% is conserved within Elk State Forest and Sizerville State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Portage (Cameron County), Portage (Potter County), and Keating Townships

- 14) **Kersey Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This greenway is situated in southeast Elk County along Kersey Run and several tributaries, including Burch Run, Byrnes Runs, Hywick Run, Powers Run, and Sand Spring Run. Also found within this greenway are portions of Byrnes Run BDA and Four Points BDA, as well as their supporting landscapes and Boone Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses nearly 8,000 acres, of which approximately 22.14% is protected within Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Fox and Jay Townships

- 15) **South Branch Kinzua Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This proposed greenway is situated in western McKean County along South Branch Kinzua Creek and several tributaries, including Fivemile Run, Glad Run, Gunning Run, Hubert Run, Mudlick Run, Threemile Run, and Watermill Run. This corridor also contains at least portions of Red Bridge BDA, South Branch Kinzua Creek BDA, and Swede Hill BDA, as well as the supporting landscapes of Kinzua Creek BDA and South Branch Kinzua Creek BDA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is more than 13 miles from the headwaters of South Branch Kinzua Creek to where it enters into Kinzua Creek. The corridor also encompasses more than 5,700 acres, of which approximately 71.66% is conserved in Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Hamilton, Hamlin, and Wetmore Townships as well as Kane Borough

- 16) **Allegheny Portage Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean and Potter Counties: This greenway is located in eastern McKean and western Potter Counties along Allegheny Portage Creek and several tributaries, including Combs Creek, Fair Run, Hamilton Run, Indian Run, Long Run, Rock Run, Scaffold Lick Run, Slide Hollow Creek, South Branch Hamilton Run, and Whiting Creek. Also found within this greenway is a portion of Allegheny Portage Creek BDA, as well as Keating Summit LCA, Lookout Mountain LCA, and Upper Allegheny River LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 10.5 miles from the headwaters of Allegheny Portage Creek to where it enters the Allegheny River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 24,000 acres, of which approximately 23.92% is conserved in Susquehannock State Forest and State Game Land #61.

Associated Municipalities: Liberty and Norwich Townships in McKean County as well as Keating and Roulette Townships in Potter County

- 17) **Lyman Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in Potter County, west of Galeton, along Lyman Run, Rock Run, and Lyman Lake. Also included in this corridor are Ridge Road BDA and Lyman Run LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway, from the headwaters to where Lyman Run enters West Branch Pine Creek, is approximately 8.5 miles. The entire greenway encompasses

nearly 33,000 acres, of which approximately 82.23% is conserved within Susquehannock, Sproul, and Tioga State Forests; Hammersley Wild Area; and Ole Bull and Lyman Run State Parks.

Associated Municipalities: Summit, Sweden, Ulysses, and West Branch Townships

- 18) Mosquito Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron, Clearfield, and Elk Counties: Situated in northeastern Clearfield County and southern Elk and Cameron Counties, this proposed greenway runs along Mosquito Creek and several tributaries, including Arnold Run, Beaver Run, Cole Run, Curleys Run, Deserter Run, Gifford Run, Grimes Run, Heichel Run, Lost Run, Mc Nerney Run, Mecker Run, Meeker Run, Panther Run, Pebble Run, Susman Run, and Twelvemile Run.

Also found within this greenway are Cole Run BDA, Gifford Run Vernal Pools BDA, Gifford Run Wetlands BDA, Mosquito Creek-County Line Wetlands BDA, Quehanna Right-of-Way BDA, and Twelvemile Run Tributaries BDA, as well as Deible/Mix Run LCA and Marion Brooks Natural Area LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 17 miles from the headwaters of Mosquito Creek to where it enters the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The entire greenway encompasses approximately 21,156 acres, of which approximately 91.42% is conserved within Moshannon and Elk State Forests, Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, and State Game Land #34.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson Township in Cameron County, Covington, Girard, Goshen and Karthaus Townships in Clearfield County, and Benezette Township in Elk County

- 19) Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron, Elk, and McKean Counties: This proposed greenway is situated in Cameron, Elk, and McKean Counties along Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek and several of its tributaries, including Big Run, Billy Buck Run, Bobby Run, Brewer Fork, Canoe Run, Cherry Run, Clear Creek, Cooks Run, Dead Mans Lick, Dells Run, Dry Run, Eddy Run, Elk Fork, Franks Run, Indian Camp, John Mason Run, Johns Run, Johnson Run, Left Fork Canoe Run, Mason Grove Run, Nelson Run, Nichols Run, North Creek, Oviatt Branch, Right Fork Big Run, Robinson Run, Sinnemahoning Portage Creek, Square Timber Run, Sterling Run, Stillhouse Run, Tanglefoot Run, Wash Mason Run, West Creek, and Windfall Run.

Also included in this greenway are Upper Clear Creek LCA and Elk River LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 28 miles from the headwaters to where it enters Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses around 26,700 acres, of which approximately 39.7% is protected in Elk State Forest, Johnson Run Natural Area, Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run Natural Area, and State Game Land #30.

Associated Municipalities: Shippen, Portage, Lumber, and Gibson Townships, as well as Driftwood and Emporium Borough in Cameron County; Jones Township in Elk County, as well as Norwich and Sergeant Townships in McKean County.

- 20) **Slate Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in southeast Potter County, extending into Lycoming and Tioga County along Slate Run.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses slightly over 2,000 acres, of which, approximately 100% is conserved in Susquehannock, Tiadaghton, and Tioga State Forests.

Associated Municipalities: Abbott and Stewardson Townships

- 21) **Sinnemahoning Portage Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated in Cameron, Potter, and McKean Counties, this proposed greenway runs along Sinnemahoning Portage Creek, as well as several of its tributaries, including Cowley Run, Dempsey Run, Fourmile Run, Half Mile Run, Kimball Run, Left Branch Half Mile Run, Little Joe Run, Little Parker Run, Marvin Run, Mud Lick Run, North Branch Indian Run, Parker Run, Pine Hill Run, Right Branch Half Mile Run, Salt Run, Sizer Run, and South Branch Indian Run.

Also included within this greenway is the Supporting Landscape of Keating Summit BDA as well as Keating Summit LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway from the headwaters of Willow Creek to where it enters Allegheny Reservoir is approximately 8.7 miles. The entire greenway encompasses more than 9,101 acres, of which approximately 76.86% is conserved in Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Shippen and Portage Townships, as well as Emporium Borough in Cameron County; Portage and Keating Township in Potter County; Norwich and Liberty Townships in McKean County.

- 22) **Willow Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This proposed greenway is situated in northwest McKean County along Willow Creek, Boatroad Run, Coffey Run, Dry Brook, North Branch Willow Creek, Pickett Run, Prue Run, South Branch Willow Creek, Tinkertown Run, and Trail Run, as well as the Willow Bay section of the Allegheny Reservoir.

This corridor also contains at least portions of Cobb Hollow BDA, Coffey BDA, and Willow Bay BDA, as well as State Line LCA, Stickney LCA, and Tracey Ridge LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is approximately 8.7 miles in length from the headwaters to where it enters into Allegheny Reservoir at Willow Bay. The corridor also encompasses more than 9,000 acres, of which approximately 76.86% is conserved in the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Bradford, Corydon, and Foster Townships

- 23) **Cross Fork Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This proposed greenway is situated in south central Potter County along Cross Fork and tributaries, including Big Run, Bolich Run, Boone Run, Cherry Run, Elk Lick Run, Gravel Lick Run, Little Lyman Run, Short Run, Windfall Run, Wingerter Run, and Yochum Run. This corridor also contains at least portions of Hammersley Wild Area LCA and Keeney Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is approximately 12.8 miles in length from the headwaters of Cross Fork to where it enters Kettle Creek near the border of Potter and Clinton Counties. The

entire greenway encompasses more than 15,000 acres, of which approximately 95.91% is conserved within Susquehannock State Forest and Hammersley Wild Area.

Associated Municipalities: Abbott, East Fork District, Stewardson, and West Branch Townships

- 24) **Fishing Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This proposed greenway is situated in western Potter County along Fishing Creek, East Branch Fishing Creek, and Fish Hollow Run west of Coudersport. The corridor also contains Fishing Creek BDA and East Branch Fishing Creek Slopes BDA, as well as the supporting landscapes of these BDAs.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses approximately 2,320 acres, none of which is conserved at the time of this plan.

Associated Municipalities: Clara, Eulalia, Hebron, and Roulette Townships

- 25) **Spring Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This corridor is located in southeast Elk County, south of Saint Marys along Spring Run, and its tributaries, including Little Wolf Lick Run, Stoney Brook, Trout Run, and Wolf Lick Run. This greenway also contains portions of Boone Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is nearly eight miles in length at its widest point from the headwaters to where Spring Run enters Elk Creek. The entire greenway encompasses more than 11,000 acres, of which approximately 23.23% is conserved within Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Benezette, Elk, and Fox Townships

- 26) **Hunts Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Potter Counties: This greenway is found mostly in Cameron County, east of Emporium along Hunts Run, and several of its tributaries, including Hunting Shanty Branch, McKinnon Branch, McNuff Branch, Mooley Hollow Run, Rock Run, Russell Hollow Run, Shanty Branch, Steam Mill Branch, and Whitehead Run.

Also found in this corridor is a yet to be named BDA surrounding the confluence of Steam Mill Branch and McKinnon Branch in the western section of Hunts Run watershed. This draft BDA was mapped by the PNHPs specifically for use in the North Central Greenways Plan.

Approximate Size: This greenway is nearly eight miles in length from the headwaters to where Hunts Run enters Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses more than 9,700 acres, of which approximately 75.74% is conserved within Elk State Forest, Bucktail State Park Natural Area, and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Lumber and Portage Townships in Cameron County, as well as Wharton and Portage Townships in Potter County

- 27) **Sinnemahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: This proposed greenway is situated in southern Cameron County along Sinnemahoning Creek and several of its tributaries, including Lower, Middle, and Upper Jerry Run, Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek, Commissioners Run, Grove Run, Left Branch Montour Run, Left Fork Grove Run, Montour Run, Pfoutz Run, and Wykoff Run. This corridor also contains portions of Sinnemahoning Creek Cliffs #1 BDA, Lower Jerry Run Watershed BDA, and Wharton LCA.

Approximate Size: This corridor encompasses nearly 12,000 acres, of which approximately 68.34% is conserved in Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Lower Jerry Run Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Sproul State Forest, and Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson and Grove Townships, as well as a small portion of Driftwood Borough

- 28) Oswayo Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter and McKean Counties: This corridor is situated in northwest Potter County and northeast McKean County along Oswayo Creek and its tributaries, including Bell Run, Bells Brook, Bradley Run, Butter Creek, Canada Run, Clara Creek, Cow Run, Elevenmile Creek, Hemlock Hollow Run, Honeoye Creek, Horse Run, Janders Run, Kings Run, Little Genesee Creek, Plank Creek, South Branch Oswayo Creek, Taylor Brook, Topeka Creek, West Branch Whitney Creek, and Whitney Creek..

Also found within this greenway are Carmen Hill BDA, Ellisburg Complex BDA, Oswayo Creek at Shinglehouse BDA, Rose Lake BDA, and Oswayo Creek BDA and CA. Additionally, the supporting landscapes of Oswayo Creek BDA, Rose Lake BDA, Ellisburg Complex BDA, and Oswayo Creek BDA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses over 32,000 acres, of which only about 4% is conserved in State Game Land #204.

Associated Municipalities: Allegheny, Clara, Genesee, Hebron, Sharon and Oswayo Townships, as well as Shinglehouse and Oswayo Boroughs in Potter County, and Ceres Township in McKean County

- 29) Cole Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This corridor is situated in central McKean County, north of Smethport along Cole Creek, and its tributaries, including North and South Branch Cole Creek, Blacksmith Run, Droney Run, East Branch Tunungwant Creek, Ice Pond Brook, Kendall Creek, Kinzua Creek, Little Black Brook, Marvin Creek, Minard Run, North Branch Cole Creek, Panther Run, Potato Creek, Railroad Run, Rices Creek, Tyler Brook, and Wolf Run. Also found within this greenway is part of Potato Creek LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses approximately 5,295 acres along the aforementioned streams. None of the land within this corridor is conserved at this time.

Associated Municipalities: Keating Township and a small portion of Foster and Otto Townships

- 30) Mix Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and Cameron Counties: This corridor is situated in southeastern Elk County and southwestern Cameron County along Mix Run and several of its tributaries, including Deible Run, Paige Run, Red Run, and Gravel Lick. Also found within this greenway are Deible/Mix Run CA and Marion Brooks Natural Area CA, as well as the Supporting Landscape of these CA's.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses nearly 12,000 acres, of which approximately 75.93% is conserved within State Game Land #34, Marion Brooks Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, and Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Benezette Township in Elk County and Gibson Township in Cameron County

- 31) **Allegheny River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter and McKean Counties: The Allegheny River greenway is situated in northwestern Potter County and northeastern McKean County along the Allegheny River and several of its tributaries.

Also found within this greenway are 14 BDA's and CA's including Allegheny Portage Creek CA, Allegheny River at Coudersport BDA, Allegheny River at Larabee CA, Allegheny River at Reed Run BDA, Allegheny River at Turtlepoint CA, Allegheny River at Eulalia BDA, Bullis Mills CA, Coryville Railroad Grade CA, Dutchman Hill BDA, Fishing Creek BDA, Frinks BDA, Indian Swamp Crossing CA, Lower Knapp Creek CA, and Peet Brook BDA.

Five of the aforementioned BDA's and CA's are surrounded by Supporting Landscapes that intersect this greenway. In addition, Lookout Mountain LCA, Allegheny Wetland Complex LCA, Upper Allegheny River LCA, and Potato Creek LCA are also within this greenway.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses nearly 38,000 acres, of which approximately 11.18% is conserved within State Game Land #61 and #301, as well as Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Annin, Ceres, Eldred, Keating, Liberty, Norwich, and Otto Townships, as well as Eldred and Port Allegheny Boroughs in McKean County; Allegany, Eulalia, Hebron, Homer, Keating, Pleasant Valley, Roulette, and Sweden Townships, and Coudersport Borough in Potter County

- 32) **Wykoff Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: Situated in southern Cameron County, this greenway is found along Wykoff Run, Trout Hole Run, and Foley Branch.

While the Natural Heritage Inventory was not complete for Cameron County at the time of this study, the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program did supply draft data for areas that will likely become BDAs when the study is complete. One of these BDAs is found within proposed Wykoff Run Greenway surrounding a large portion of Wykoff Run and its tributaries.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is approximately 9.5 miles from the headwaters of Wykoff Run to its mouth at Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire corridor encompasses nearly 9,000 acres, of which approximately 87.05% is conserved within Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, and Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson and Grove Townships

- 33) **Knapp Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: This greenway is located in northeast McKean County along Knapp Creek, South Branch Knapp Creek, Baker Run, Kansas Branch, and Tram Hollow Run. Also found within this corridor are 3 BDA's including Upper Knapp Creek BDA, Lower Knapp Creek BDA, and Indian Crossing Swamp BDA. In addition, the supporting landscape of these BDAs covers the entire greenway corridor.

Approximate Size: The Knapp Creek Greenway encompasses nearly 4,000 acres, none of which is conserved in any way.

Associated Municipalities: Otto and Eldred Townships as well as Eldred Borough

- 34) **Trout Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This corridor is situated in southeast Elk County along Trout Run, Rock Lick Run, Lecker Run, Hellfire Run, and Sawdust Run.

Approximate Size: The Greenway encompasses nearly 16,000 acres, of which approximately 26.74% is conserved within State Game Land #14 and #311 and Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Benezette and Jay Townships as well as St. Marys City

- 35) **Big Mill Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: The Big Mill Creek greenway is located in central Elk County west of Johnsonburg. This corridor is found along Big Mill Creek, Bunts Run, Slide Run, Rocky Run, Ellithrope Run, Windfall Run, Pine Run, Red Mill Run, and Spencer Run. Also found within this greenway is Montmorenci Hemlock Swamp BDA and its supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is approximately 14.6 miles from the headwaters of Big Mill Creek to where it enters the Clarion River. The entire corridor encompasses just under 6,000 acres, of which approximately 85.69% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Highland, Jones, and Ridgway Townships

- 36) **Clarion River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and Jefferson Counties: The Clarion River Greenway is located in central and western Elk County as well as northern Jefferson County. This corridor covers the Clarion River and several of its tributaries. Also found within this greenway is 25 BDA's and CA's, including the supporting landscapes of 14 of those BDA's and CA's, and the Clarion River LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 40 miles from the confluence of the East and West Branches of the Clarion River to the western border of Jefferson County. The Clarion River Greenway also extends into Clarion County to the mouth at the Allegheny River on the county's western border. The entire corridor encompasses just over 38,000 acres, of which approximately 64.1% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest, State Game Lands #25, #44, #45, #54, and #283, Clear Creek State Forest, Clear Creek State Park, and Cook Forest State Park..

Associated Municipalities: Horton, Jones, Millstone, Ridgway, and Spring Creek Townships, as well as Ridgway and Johnsonburg Boroughs, and Saint Marys City in Elk County; and Barnett, Eldred, Heath, Polk, and Warsaw Townships in Jefferson County

- 37) **West Branch Tunungwant Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: Situated in northwest McKean County, this greenway is found along the West Branch of Tunungwant Creek as well as several of its tributaries, including Bennett Brook, Fuller Brook, Gilbert Run, Kisseem Run, Langmade Brook, Marilla Brook, South Perry Run, and Two Mile Run. Also found within this corridor are 3 CAs and their supporting landscapes, including Cobb Hollow Upland CA, West Branch Tunungwant Creek CA, and Brown Valley CA.

Approximate Size: The West Branch Tunungwant Creek Greenway encompasses more than 6,000 acres, of which approximately 7.43% is conserved within the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Bradford, Foster, and Lafayette Townships and Bradford City

- 38) Muddy Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: Muddy Creek greenway is situated in southeast Clearfield County along Muddy Run and several of its tributaries, including Little Muddy Run, East Branch Little Muddy Run, and Banian Run. This corridor also contains portions of a supporting landscape of a BDA in Cambria County near the headwaters of Little Muddy Run.

Approximate Size: The Muddy Run greenway encompasses more than 2,600 acres, of which approximately 22.17% is contained within Clearfield County Public Recreation Area (formerly Camp Wopsononock).

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria, Bigler, and Gulich Townships, as well as Ramey Borough

- 39) Kinzua Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: Situated in west central McKean County, this greenway is found along the Kinzua Creek as well as several of its tributaries, including Blacksnake Run, Camp Run, Dutchman Run, Elk Bar Run, Libby Run, Lightning Run, Little Black Brook, Little Meade Run, Markham Run, Meade Run, Morrison Run, Mud Lick Run, Pine Run, Root Run, Threemile Run, Thundershower Run, Town Line Run, Turnup Run, Whiting Run, Windfall Run, and Wintergreen Run.

Also included within this greenway corridor are 11 CA's including Bingham CA, Kasson Railroad Grade CA, Kiasutha Campground CA, Kinzua Creek CA, Kinzua Creek below Westline CA, Kinzua Gorge CA, Mount Alton Roadside CA, Mount Alton Wetland CA, Ormsby Swamp CA, Red Bridge CA, and Route 59 Roadside CA, as well as the supporting landscape of 5 of the aforementioned CA's.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 23 miles from the headwaters of the Kinzua Creek to Kinzua Bay near PA Route 321. The entire corridor encompasses over 24,000 acres, of which approximately 53.84% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest and Kinzua Bridge State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Corydon, Hamilton, Hamlin, Keating, Lafayette, and Wetmore Townships, as well as Mount Jewett Borough

- 40) Spring Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This greenway is located in western Elk County extending into Forest County. The portion of this greenway in Elk County is found surrounding the headwaters of Spring Creek. Other streams found within this corridor include East Branch Spring Creek, Hill Run, Hunters Creek, Little Hunter Creek, Pigeon Run, Pine Run, and Wagner Run.

Approximate Size: The Spring Creek greenway encompasses nearly 18,000 acres, of which approximately 79.03% is conserved in State Game Land #20 and the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Highland, Millstone, and Spring Creek Townships

- 41) **Sugar Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This greenway is located in northwest McKean County along Sugar Run and several tributaries including Buck Lick Run, Hammond Run, Indian Run, Kavanaugh Branch, Linn Brook, Nelse Run, North Branch Sugar Run, Pigeon Run, Railroad Run, and Whitney Run. Also found within this corridor are Sugar Bay CA, Sugar Run CA, Sugar Run Mouth CA, and Whitney Run CA as well as three supporting landscapes of CA's and Stickney LCA and Tracy Ridge LCA.

Approximate Size: The Sugar Run greenway encompasses nearly 7,000 acres, of which approximately 94.19% is conserved in the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Bradford, Corydon, and Lafayette Townships

- 42) **Laurel Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield and Elk Counties: Located in northern Clearfield County and southern Elk County, this greenway surrounds Laurel Run and several tributaries including Abbot Run, Birch Run, Fox Run, Little Laurel Run, Little Saunders Run, Mud Run, Pray Run, Saunders Run, and Wise Run. Also found within this greenway are three BDAs: Laurel Run and Saunders Run BDA, Laurel Run tributary wetland BDA, and Parker Dam Beaver Ponds BDA, as well as the supporting landscapes of these BDAs.

Approximate Size: The Laurel Run greenway encompasses nearly 5,800 acres, of which approximately 79.08% is conserved in State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest, and Parker Dam State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Decatur, Huston, Lawrence, Morris, and Pine Townships in Clearfield County and Jay Township in Elk County

- 43) **Roper Hollow (Allegheny River) Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This greenway is located in northwest McKean County along the eastern shore of the Allegheny Reservoir. Found within this greenway are Deer Lick Run, Johnnycake Run, North Branch Tracy Run, Tracy Run, Whisky Run, and Williams Brook. These streams all drain into the reservoir. This corridor also contains a portion of the supporting landscape of Coffey Run BDA and the Tracy Ridge LCA.

Approximate Size: The Roper Hollow (Allegheny River) greenway encompasses more than 3,600 acres, all of which are conserved within the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Corydon Township

- 44) **East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated in southern Potter County, this corridor is found along East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek and several of its tributaries, including Birch Run, Camp Run, Dry Run, Gravel Lick Run, Horton Run, Jamison Run, Road Branch, Stony Lick Run, Stony Run, Wild Boy Run, and Williams Run. Also found within this corridor is East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek BDA and its supporting landscape, as well as a portion of Hammersley Wild Area LCA and Birch Run LCA.

Approximate Size: This greenway is 14.5 miles in length from the headwaters of East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek to where it enters First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire corridor encompasses more than 15,000 acres, of which approximately 87.67% is conserved within the Hammersley Wild Area and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Abbott, East Fork District, Summit, Sylvania, West Branch, and Wharton Townships

- 45) **Pine Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Located in eastern Potter County, this corridor extends into Tioga County along Pine Creek. Other streams found within this corridor include: Barn Brook, Buckseller Run, Cabin Run, Johnson Brook, Jones Run, Losey Run, South Branch Pine Creek, and Thunder Run. Also found in the Pine Creek greenway are eight BDAs: Ansley Hollow BDA, Bristol Pond BDA, Buckseller Run BDA, Clark Farm Road Complex BDA, Martin Hollow BDA, Rock Run Road BDA, State Game Lands #64 BDA, and Walton Slopes BDA. Four of the aforementioned BDAs also have supporting landscape surrounding them, which are at least partially located within this greenway, as well as a portion of State Game Land #64 LCA.

Approximate Size: Pine Creek greenway encompasses more than 20,000 acres, of which approximately 46.96% is conserved within State Game Land #64 and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Allegany, Pike, Sweden, Ulysses, and West Branch Townships, as well as Galeton Borough

The 37 Exceptional Priority Natural System Greenway Corridors proposed here total 855 square miles, of which approximately 45.39% is currently conserved.

### ***PROPOSED SIGNIFICANT PRIORITY NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDORS***

The proposed significant priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are situated in locations that support the conservation of exceptional priority corridors. There are 31 proposed significant priority greenways within the North Central region.

- 46) **Moshannon Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is situated on the eastern border of Clearfield County along Moshannon Creek and several of its tributaries, including at least portions of Albert Run, Ames Run, Beaver Run, Big Run, Browns Run, Coal Run, Crawford Run, Emigh Run, Goss Run, Grassflat Run, Hawk Run, Laurel Run, Little Beaver Run, Little Laurel Run, Shimel Run, Simeling Run, Sulphur Run, Weber Run, Whiteside Run, and Wilson Run.

Also found within this greenway is Camp Wopsononock BDA and Moshannon Cliffs BDA, as well as portions of Allegheny Front #1 and #3 LCAs.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 42 miles from the headwaters of the Moshannon Creek in the southeastern most corner of Clearfield County to where it enters the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The entire corridor encompasses just over 5,800 acres, of which approximately 5.67% is conserved within State Game Land #100.

Associated Municipalities: Boggs, Cooper, Decatur, Gulich, Morris, and Woodward Townships, as well as Brisbin, Chester Hill, Houtzdale, and Osceola Boroughs

- 47) **West Branch Pine Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated in eastern Potter County, this greenway is found along West Branch Pine Creek and several of its

tributaries, including Beech Flats Run, Crippen Run, Indian Run, Lyman Run, Right Branch Wetmore Run, Sunken Branch, West Branch Pine Creek, and Wetmore Run.

Also found within this corridor are Cherry Springs Park BDA, Slaughterhouse Swamp BDA, as well as portions of Slaughterhouse Swamp supporting landscape and Lyman Run LCA.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is 14.7 miles from the headwaters of West Branch Pine Creek to its mouth at Pine Creek in Galeton. The entire greenway encompasses a little more than 13,000 acres, of which approximately 52.55% is protected within State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest, and Cherry Springs State Park.

**Associated Municipalities:** Abbott, Pike, Summit, Ulysses, and West Branch Townships, as well as Galeton Borough

- 48) Anderson Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: Located in western Clearfield County, this greenway is found along Anderson Creek, as well as portions of several tributaries, including Bear Run, Bilger Run, Blanchard Run, Burns Run, Coupler Run, Dressler Run, Hughley Run, Irvin Branch, Kratzer Run, Little Anderson Creek, Montgomery Run, Panther Run, Rock Run, Stony Run, and Whitney Run.

Also found within this corridor are four BDA's; Anderson Creek & Whitney Run Wetlands BDA, Bilger Rocks BDA, SB Elliot Cabins wetland BDA, and Stony Run Headwaters wetland BDA, as well as 3 supporting landscapes.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is nearly twenty miles from the headwaters of Anderson Creek to where it enters the West Branch Susquehanna River in Curwensville. The entire greenway encompasses just over 7,300 acres, of which approximately 32.56% is conserved within Moshannon State Forest, State Game Land #93, and S.B. Elliott State Park.

**Associated Municipalities:** Bloom, Brady, Huston, Penn, Pike, Pine, and Union Townships, as well as Curwensville and Grampian Boroughs

- 49) Dents Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Elk Counties: Situated in eastern Elk County and western Cameron County, this greenway is found along Dents Run and several of its tributaries including Barr Run, Bell Run, Bigger Run, Pepperhill Run, and Sand Spring Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of a BDA designated part of Boone Mountain LCA.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this greenway is nearly 11 miles from the headwaters of Dents Run to where it enters Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire corridor encompasses more than 7,200 acres, of which approximately 95.97% is conserved within State Game Lands #14 and #311 as well as Elk State Forest.

**Associated Municipalities:** Benezette Township and Saint Marys City in Elk County as well as Shippen Township in Elk County

- 50) East Branch Hicks Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Elk Counties: Situated in eastern Elk County and western Cameron County, this greenway is found along East Branch Hicks Run and several of its tributaries, including Bells Branch Dents Run, Little Bear Run,

and McDonald Run. Also found within this corridor is a BDA designated in draft for by the PNHP for this project and part of Boone Mountain LCA.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is a little over 8 miles from the headwaters of East Branch Hicks Run to its confluence with West Branch Hicks Run at Hicks Run. The entire greenway encompasses just over 4,100 acres, of which approximately 76.66% is conserved within State Game Land #14 and Elk State Forest.

**Associated Municipalities:** Benezette Township in Elk County as well as Gibson and Shippen Townships in Cameron County

- 51) East Branch Clarion River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and McKean Counties: This greenway is located in northern Elk County and southern McKean County along East Branch Clarion River and several tributaries, including Bendigo Run, Borgardy Run, Buck Run, Cold Spring Run, County Line Run, Crooked Creek, Doe Run, Dutch Run, Fivemile Run, Gum Boot Run, Johnson Run, Long Branch, Lukes Run, Maple Run, Middle Fork East Branch Clarion River, North Straight Creek, Sevenmile Run, Smith Run, South Fork Straight Creek, Straight Creek, Swamp Creek, and Wellendorf Branch.

The East Branch dam and East Branch Clarion River Lake/Reservoir are within this greenway approximately 7.3 miles upstream from the confluence with West Branch Clarion River.

Also found within this corridor are Cathrine Swamp CA, Elk State Forest CA, Midmont Swamp CA, and South Fork CA, as well as the supporting landscapes of three of the aforementioned CAs and Elk River LCA.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is nearly 18 miles from the headwaters of East Branch Clarion River to the confluence of West Branch Clarion River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 20,000 acres, of which approximately 45.24% is conserved within State Game Land #25, Elk State Forest, Elk State Park, and Bendigo State Park.

**Associated Municipalities:** Jones and Ridgway Townships as well as Johnsonburg Borough and Saint Marys City in Elk County; and Hamlin and Sergeant Townships in McKean County

- 52) Sandy Lick Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield and Jefferson Counties: Located in central and eastern Jefferson County and western Clearfield County, this corridor is found along Sandy Lick Creek and several tributaries, including Beaver Run, Cable Run, Camp Run, Chestnut Run, Clear Run, Coal Run, Fehley Run, Fivemile Run, Front Run, Fuller Run, Juniata Run, Laborde Branch, Luthersburg Branch, McCreight Run, Mill Creek, Muddy Creek, Narrows Creek, O'Donnell Run, Panther Run, Reisinger Run, Schoolhouse Run, Slab Run, Soldier Run, Stony Run, Sugarcamp Run, Trout Run, and Wolf Run.

Also found within this corridor are 4 BDAs, including Laborde Branch Wetlands BDA, O'Donnell Run BDA, Reynlow Park BDA, and Sandy Lick Creek Wetlands BDA, as well as three supporting landscapes.

**Approximate Size:** The total length of this corridor is more than 32 miles from the headwaters of Sandy Lick Creek east of DuBois to where it enters Red Bank Creek in Brookville. The entire greenway encompasses more than 9,200 acres, of which approximately 6.87% is conserved in State Game Lands #77, #93, #244, and Reynlow Park.

Associated Municipalities: Brady, Sandy, and Union Townships, as well as DuBois City in Clearfield County; Henderson, Knox, Pine Creek, Rose, Washington, and Winslow Townships as well as Brookville, Falls Creek, and Reynoldsville Boroughs in Jefferson County.

- 53) Cathers Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is located in northwest Jefferson County along Cathers Run and several tributaries, including Black Run, Clawson Run, Fowler Run, Kahle Run, and Seaton Run. Also found within this greenway are Cather Run Hemlock Swamp BDA and Cather Run Wet Meadow BDA, as well as supporting landscapes of Cather Run Hemlock Swamp BDA and Shippen Run BDA, and Clarion River LCA.

Approximate Size: Cathers Run Greenway encompasses more than 2,270 acres, of which approximately 27.84% is conserved within State Game Land #283.

Associated Municipalities: Barnett and Eldred Townships

- 54) Clearfield Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is situated running from central to southern Clearfield County along Clearfield Creek and several tributaries, including Alexander Run, Blain Run, Cherry Run, Cofinan Run, DeWitt Run, Dunlap Run, Forcey Run, Jake Run, Japling Run, Little Clearfield Creek, Little Potts Run, Long Run, Lost Run, Lytle Run, Maplepole Run, Morgan Run, Muddy Run, North Branch Upper Morgan Run, North Witmer Run, Pine Run, Porter Run, Potts Run, Raccoon Run, Roaring Run, Sanborn Run, Turner Run, Upper Morgan Run, Valley Fork Run, and Wolf Run.

Also found within this greenway is Dimeling Road BDA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 30 miles along Clearfield Creek from where it enters Clearfield County south of Irvona to the mouth at the West Branch Susquehanna River near Clearfield. The entire greenway encompasses just over 5,300 acres, of which approximately 0.12% is conserved in State Game Land #98.

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria, Bigler, Boggs, Bradford, Jordan, Knox, Lawrence, and Woodward Townships, as well as Coalport, Glen Hope and Irvona Boroughs

- 55) Lick Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: Located in north central Clearfield County along Lick Run, this corridor also includes several tributaries, such as Flegals Run, Fork Run, Jerry Run, and Stone Run. Also found within this corridor are Crystals Springs Bog BDA, S.B. Elliot Cabins Wetland BDA, and three supporting landscapes.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is just over 10 miles from the headwaters of Lick Run to where it enters West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire corridor encompasses nearly 4,000 acres, of which approximately 57.29% is conserved within State Game Land 390, Moshannon State Forest, and S.B. Elliot State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Goshen, Lawrence, and Pine Townships

- 56) West Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and Elk Counties: This greenway is located in eastern Elk County and western Cameron County along West Creek and several tributaries, including Bear Run, Big Run, Hart Run, Kay Fork, Little Bear Run, North Fork West

Creek, Sand Lick Run, South Fork West Creek, and Towner Run. Also found within this corridor are portions of Upper Clear Creek CA and West Branch Hicks Run CA, as well as Upper Clear Creek LCA and Boone Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 15 miles from the headwaters of West Creek to its mouth at Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek in Emporium Borough. The entire greenway encompasses more than 15,500 acres, of which approximately 21.18% is conserved within State Game Lands #14, #25, and #293, as well as Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Jones Township and Saint Marys City in Elk County; and Shippen Township and Emporium Borough in Cameron County.

- 57) **East Branch Tunungwant Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: Located in northern McKean County south of Bradford, this greenway is found along East Branch Tunungwant Creek as well as several tributaries, including Bear Run, Droney Run, Foster Run, Lewis Brook, Lewis Run, Miam Run, Minard Run, Railroad Run, Rutherford Run, Sheppard Run, and Wastrous Run.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 12 miles from the headwaters of East Branch Tunungwant Creek to where it enters Tunungwant Creek in Bradford. The entire greenway encompasses over 10,700 acres, of which approximately 18.06% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Bradford, Foster, Keating, and Lafayette Townships, as well as Lewis Run Borough and Bradford City

- 58) **West Branch Susquehanna River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in Clearfield County stretching from the northeast corner to the southwest corner along the West Branch Susquehanna River. Sections of several tributaries are also found within this corridor, including Abes Run, Alder Run, Anderson Creek Bald Hill Run, Basin Run, Bear Run, Bell Run, Big Run, Bloody Run, Boiling Spring Run, Chest Creek, Clearfield Creek, Curry Run, Daily Run, Deer Creek, Deer Run, Devils Run, Elk Lick Run, Fryor Run, Hartshorn Run, Haslett Run, Hogback Run, Irish Run, Kilns Run, Kings Run, Laurel Run, Left Branch Moose Creek, Lick Run, Lower Three Runs, Martin Run, McCracken Run, Miller Run, Millstone Run, Montgomery Creek, Moose Creek, Moravian Run, Mosquito Creek, Mowry Run, North Run, Poplar Run, Porter Run, Right Branch Moose Creek, Rock Run, Rolling Stone Run, Rupley Run, Saltlick Run, Sandy Creek, Sawmill Run, Shyrock Run, Sulphur Run, Surveyor Run, Trout Run, Upper Three Runs, Whiskey Run, Willholm Run, Wolf Run, and Woods Run.

Also found within this greenway are Bell's Landing Floodplain BDA, Burnside Oxbow BDA, Dimeling Road BDA, Fulton Railroad Tunnel, and Left Branch Moose Creek Headwaters BDA, as well as four supporting landscapes and one LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 70 miles within Clearfield County. The entire corridor encompasses over 18,700 acres, of which approximately 7.08% is conserved within State Game Land #87, Moshannon State Forest, and S.B. Elliot State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Bell, Bradford, Burnside, Cooper, Covington, Ferguson, Girard, Goshen, Graham, Greenwood, Karthaus, Lawrence, Penn, Pike, and Pine Township, as well as Burnside, Clearfield, Curwensville, Lumber City, Mahaffey, and New Washington Boroughs

- 59) Mahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield and Jefferson Counties: This greenway is located in western Clearfield County and southwest Jefferson County along Mahoning Creek and several tributaries, including Beaver Run, Beech Run, Big Run, Buck Run, Canoe Creek, Clover Run, Cold Spring Run, Couch Run, Dutch Run, East Branch Mahoning Creek, Elk Run, Foundry Run, Hamilton Run, Laurel Branch Run, Laurel Run, Limestone Run, Little Elk Run, Lost Run, McKee Run, Nicely Run, Painter Run, Perryville Run, Poose Run, Rock Run, Rose Run, Sawmill Run, Smith Run, Steer Run, Stony Run, Stump Creek, Sugarcamp Run, Trout Run, Turnip Run, Ugly Run, Windfall Run.

Also found within this greenway is the Mahoning Creek BDA and an LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 30 miles from the headwaters of Mahoning Creek in Clearfield County to where it exits Jefferson County southwest of Punxsutawney. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 14,000 acres, of which approximately 4.28% in State Game Lands #84 and #195.

Associated Municipalities: Bell, Brady, Penn, and Sandy Townships, as well as Troutville Borough in Clearfield County; Bell, Gaskill, Henderson, McCalmont, Perry, Porter, Winslow, and Young Townships, as well as Big Run and Sykesville Boroughs in Jefferson County.

- 60) Tunungwant Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: Situated in northern McKean County east of Bradford, this corridor is found along Tunungwant Creek and portions of several tributaries, including Foster Brook, Harrisburg Run, Kendall Creek, Lafferty Run, Latchaw Creek, and Pennbrook Run.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses just over 1,600 acres, none of which is conserved in any way at this time.

Associated Municipalities: Foster Township and Bradford City

- 61) Marvin Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This greenway is found in central McKean County along Marvin Creek and several tributaries, including Blacksmith Run, Ice Pond Brook, Jet Brook, Kane Creek, Stanton Brook, Warner Brook, and Wildcat Run. Also found within this corridor are Kasson Railroad Grade BDA, Potato Creek – Cole Creek BDA, and Smethport Upland BDA, as well as Cathrine Swamp and Ormsby Swamp supporting landscapes and a portion of Potato Creek LCA.

The McKean County Complex property is found along Marvin Creek and Hamlin Lake Park is also included in this corridor.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 15 miles from the headwaters of Marvin Creek to its mouth at Potato Creek in Smethport. The entire corridor encompasses over 10,500 acres, of which less than 1% is conserved within State Game Land #62 and Kinzua Bridge State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Hamlin, Keating, and Sergeant Townships, as well as Mount Jewett and Smethport Boroughs

- 62) **Redbank Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: Located in western Jefferson County, this greenway is found along Redbank Creek, as well as several tributaries, including Beaver Run, Carrier Run, Clement Run, Coder Run, Eckler Run, Patton Run, Rattlesnake Run, Runaway Run, Simpson Run, Tarkiln Run, Thompson Run, and Welch Run. Also found within this corridor is Summerville BDA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 15 miles from North Fork Redbank Creek in Brookville to where Redbank Creek exits Jefferson County near Hawthorne. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 2,100 acres, none of which is conserved at this time.

Associated Municipalities: Beaver, Clover, Oliver, and Rose Township, as well as Brookville and Summerville Borough

- 63) **West Branch Clarion River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: Situated in northern Elk County and southern McKean County, this greenway is found along West Branch Clarion River and the following tributaries: Bear Creek, Buck Run, Lanigan Brook, Little Sicily Run, Little Wolf Run, Meffert Creek, Nearing Run, Oil Creek, Rocky Run, Sicily Run, Silver Creek, Slide Run, Wilson Run, Windfall Run, and Wolf Run.

Also found within this corridor is Burning Well CA, Experimental Forest CA, Hutchins CA, Johnsonburg Meander CA, and Tambine CA, as well as the supporting landscape of Experimental Forest, Midmont Swamp, and Tambine.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 18 miles from the headwaters of West Branch Clarion River in Mount Jewett to the confluence with East Branch Clarion River in Johnsonburg. The entire corridor encompasses more than 17,200 acres, of which approximately 4.17% is conserved within the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Jones and Ridgway Townships, as well as Johnsonburg Borough in Elk County; and Hamlin, Sergeant, and Wetmore Townships in McKean County

- 64) **Trout Run (Clearfield County) Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is found in northern Clearfield County along Trout Run and several tributaries, including Alex Branch, Coldstream Run, Crooked Run, Dixon Run, Little Trout Run, Pine Run, Robert Run, and Stump Lick Run. Also found within this corridor are Robert's Run Wetlands BDA and its supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 11 miles from the headwaters of Trout Run near the border with Elk County to the mouth at the West Branch Susquehanna River northeast of Clearfield. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 6,000 acres, of which approximately 36.53% is conserved within State Game Land #94 and Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Girard, Goshen, and Lawrence Townships

- 65) **Alder Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in eastern Clearfield County along sections of Alder Run and some of its tributaries, including Browns Run, Flat Run, Hubler Run, Kettle Spring Run, and Mons Run.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is approximately 8 miles from the headwaters of Alder Run to where it enters West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire greenway is approximately 1,226 acres, none of which is presently conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Cooper, Graham, and Morris Townships

- 66) **Bennett Branch Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron, Clearfield, and Elk Counties: This greenway is located in Cameron, Elk, and Clearfield Counties along Bennett Branch and Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek. In addition to being found along these streams, this greenway also includes the following tributaries: Bakemans Run, Bark Camp Run, Barrs Run, Beaverdam Run, Boyer Run, Caledonia Run, Charlies Run, Cherry Run, Dents Run, East Branch Wilson Run, Grapevine Run, Heath Run, Hicks Run, Horning Run, Jimmy Run, Johnson Run, Kersey Run, Laurel Run, Left Fork Miller Run, Little Dent Run, Lower Pine Run, Matley Run, McCracken Run, Medix Run, Middle Branch Wilson Run, Mill Run, Mix Run, Moose Run, Mountain Lick Run, Mountain Run, Nanny Run, Silvermill Hollow Run, South Branch Bennett Branch, Stone Quarry Run, Trout Run, Tyler Run, Wainwright Run, and Wilson Run.

Also found within this corridor are Parker Dam Beaver Ponds BDA, Sandy Lick Creek Wetlands BDA, Silver Mill Headwater Swamp CA, and South Bennett Branch Wetlands BDA, as well as a draft BDA in Cameron County designated for the purposes of this plan by the PNHP. There are also supporting landscapes to five of the aforementioned BDAs/CA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is over 37 miles from the headwaters of Bennett Branch to the confluence with Driftwood Branch in Driftwood. The entire corridor encompasses nearly 18,000 acres, of which approximately 52.66% is conserved within State Game Lands #34, #93, and #311, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest, Quehanna Wild Area, and Bucktail State Park Natural Area.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson Township and Driftwood Borough in Cameron County; Huston, Sandy, and Union Townships in Clearfield County; and Benezette, Fox, Horton, and Jay Townships in Elk County.

- 67) **Phoenix Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in eastern Potter County, north of Galeton, along Phoenix Run and several tributaries, including Dodge Run, Laurel Run, Little Phoenix Run, and Stonylick Run. Also found within this corridor are Phoenix Run Slopes BDA and its supporting landscape; the supporting landscapes of Clark Farm Road Complex BDA and Bristol Pond BDA; as well as State Game Land #64 LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 8.5 miles from the headwaters of Phoenix Run to where it enters Tioga County northeast of Galeton. The entire greenway encompasses more than 3,500 acres, of which approximately 39.57% is protected within State Game Land #64 and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Hector and Pike Townships

- 68) Little Sandy Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: Situated in southwest Jefferson County, this greenway is found along sections of Little Sandy Lick Creek and portions of several tributaries including Big Run, Cherry Run, Clutch Run, Ferguson Run, Hadden Run, Hickok Run, Indiancamp Run, Lick Run, McCracken Run, Middle Branch Little Sandy Creek, Nolf Run, and Reitz Run. Also found within this corridor is Little Sandy Creek BDA and its supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 16 miles from the headwaters of Little Sandy Lick Creek to where it enters Clarion County east of Hawthorn. The entire greenway encompasses over 3,400 acres, of which approximately 33.17% is conserved in State Game Land #31.

Associated Municipalities: Beaver, Knox, McCalmont, Oliver, Perry, and Ringgold Townships, as well as Worthville Borough

- 69) Mill Creek (Clarion County) Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is found in western Jefferson County extending into Clarion County along Mill Creek and several tributaries, including Beer Run, Hugh Run, Kyle Run, Little Mill Creek, Long Run, Martin Run, Parks Run, Rankin Run, and Updike Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of North Fork at Sugarcamp Run BDA supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: This greenway encompasses just over 4,000 acres, of which approximately 14.28% is conserved in State Game Land #74.

Associated Municipalities: Eldred and Union Townships

- 70) Mill Creek (Jefferson County) Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is located in northern Jefferson County along Mill Creek and portions of several tributaries, including Fivemile Run, Horn Run, Keys Run, Laurel Run, and Little Mill Creek. Also found in this corridor is Brookville LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 17 miles from the headwaters of Mill Creek to its confluence with Sandy Lick Creek forming Redbank Creek, east of Brookville. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 3,600 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Pine Creek, Snyder, Warsaw, and Washington Townships

- 71) Young Womans Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Located in southeast Potter County, this greenway is found along several streams in the Young Womans Creek watershed, including Big Spring Branch, Big Trestle Run, County Line Branch, Dryer Branch, Greenlick Run, Lebo Run, Left Branch Young Womans Creek, Little Greenlick Run, Osborne Branch, Pigs Ear Branch, Scoval Branch, Spring Brook, Whitman Branch, and Wilcox Branch.

Approximate Size: This entire greenway encompasses more than 5,300 acres, of which approximately 91.73% is conserved in Susquehannock State Forest, Tiadaghton State Forest, and Sproul State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Stewardson Township

- 72) **Little Toby Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and Jefferson Counties: This greenway is located in northern Jefferson County and southern Elk County along several streams in the Little Toby Creek watershed. These streams include Baghdad Run, Bear Run, Bearmouth Run, Belmouth Run, Benninger Creek, Bliss Run, Boggy Run, Brandy Camp Creek, Coward Run, Curry Run, East Branch, Jenkins Run, Johnson Run, Karnes Run, Laurel Run, Limestone Run, Little Vineyard Run, McCauley Run, McEwen Run, Mead Run, Oyster Run, Phalen Run, Rattlesnake Creek, Rattlesnake Run, Sawmill Run, South Branch Laurel Run, Vineyard Run, Walburn Run, West Branch Walburn Run, and Whetstone Branch.

Also found within this corridor are Bearmouth Flats CA, Carman CA, and South Branch North Fork BDA and supporting landscape, as well as part of Clarion River LCA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses over 14,400 acres, of which approximately 39.48% is conserved within State Game Lands #44, #54, and #77 as well as Elk State Forest and Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Fox, Horton, Ridgway, and Spring Creek Townships in Elk County; Snyder and Washington Townships and Brockway Borough in Jefferson County

- 73) **Chest Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor**– Clearfield County: This greenway is located in southwest Clearfield County along Chest Creek and several tributaries, including Ashcraft Run, Barrett Run, Kings Run, McMasters Run, Moss Run, North Camp Run, Pine Run, Rattling Run, Rogues Harbor Run, Snyder Run, Tuckers Run, Wilson Run, and Woods Run.

Also found within this greenway are Chest Creek South Floodplain BDA, Chest Creek Wetlands BDA, and Rogue's Harbor Run BDA and supporting landscape, as well as Rogue's Harbor Run LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 13.5 miles from where Chest Creek enters Clearfield County in Westover to the mouth at West Branch Susquehanna River in Mahaffey. The entire greenway encompasses over 14,400 acres, of which less than 1% is currently conserved in State Game Land #120.

Associated Municipalities: Bell, Burnside, Chest, Ferguson, Greenwood, and Jordan Townships, as well as Mahaffey, New Washington, Newburg, and Westover Boroughs

- 74) **North Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron and McKean Counties: This greenway is located in northern Cameron County and a small portion of southern McKean County along North Creek and several tributaries, including Barr Run, Hunting Shanty Run, Lewis Run, Moon Run, Pepper Run, Roaring Branch, Twenty Seven Branch, and Waldy Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of Elk River LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 8 miles from the headwaters of North Creek and Waldy Run to where North Creek enters Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek northwest of Emporium. The entire greenway encompasses more than 4,100 acres, of which approximately 48.99% is conserved in State Game Land #30 and Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Shippen Township in Cameron County and Norwich Township in McKean County

**75) East Branch Tionesta Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This greenway is situated in southwest Elk County along East Branch Tionesta Creek and several tributaries, including Bloody Run, Pigeon Run, Rock Run, Thomas Run, and West Run. Also found within this corridor are Pigeon Run Headwater BDA and Pigeon Run Headwater Forest supporting Landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly ten miles from the headwaters of East Branch Tionesta Creek to where it enters Warren County. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 7,000 acres, of which approximately 9.28% is conserved within Elk State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Highland and Jones Townships in Elk County as well as Hamilton and Wetmore Townships and Kane Borough

**76) Freeman Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated in southwest Potter County around Austin Borough, this greenway is found along Freeman Run and several tributaries, such as East Branch Freeman Run, Jacob Run, Jones Run, Little Portage Creek, South Branch Little Portage Creek, and West Branch Freeman Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of Bailey Run LCA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly ten miles from the headwaters of Freeman Run to its mouth at First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek south of Austin. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 8,900 acres, of which approximately 45.80% is conserved within Elk State Forest and Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Homer, Keating, Portage, and Sylvania Townships, as well as Austin Borough

The 31 significant priority natural system greenway corridors proposed here total 402 square miles, of which approximately 27.97% are currently conserved.

## ***PROPOSED HIGH PRIORITY NATURAL SYSTEMS GREENWAY CORRIDORS***

The proposed high priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that generally contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are located in locations that support the conservation of significant priority corridors. There are 24 proposed high priority natural system greenway corridors in the North Central region.

**77) Big Moores Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Situated south of Coudersport and east of Austin, this greenway is found along Big Moores Run and Little Moores Run. Also found within this corridor are Big Moores Run BDA, Big Younglove Hollow BDA, and Hemlock Trail BDA, as well as First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek BDA supporting landscape, Hemlock Trail BDA supporting landscape, and Moores Run BDA supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 9 miles from the headwaters of Big Moores Run to its mouth at First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses nearly 3,600 acres, of which approximately 65.78% is conserved within Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Eulalia, Homer, Summit, Sweden, and Sylvania Townships

- 78) **Ninemile Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in eastern Potter County along Ninemile Run, Commissioners Run, and Dry Run. Also found within this corridor are Walton Slopes BDA and Bucksellers Run BDA supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 6 miles from the headwaters of Ninemile Run to where it enters Pine Creek northeast of Galeton. The entire corridor encompasses more than 2,600 acres, of which approximately 80.39% is conserved in Susquehannock State Forest and Denton Hill State Park.

Associated Municipalities: Sweden and Ulysses Townships

- 79) **Fivemile Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is located in western Jefferson County south of Brookville along sections of Fivemile Run, Hunts Run, Smathers Run, and Swamp Run.

Approximate Size: The entire Fivemile Run greenway encompasses 638 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Knox, Pine Creek, and Rose Townships

- 80) **West Branch Genesee River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is found in northern Potter County along all the streams and tributaries in the West Branch Genesee River watershed. Also found within this corridor are Ellisburg Complex BDA, Rose Lake BDA, West Branch Genesee River at Ellisburg BDA, and West Branch Genesee River at Genesee BDA, as well as the supporting landscapes of Cryder Creek BDA, Ellisburg Complex BDA, Rose Lake BDA, West Branch Genesee at Ellisburg BDA, and West Branch Genesee River at Genesee BDA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses nearly 3,900 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Allegany and Genesee Townships

- 81) **Chappel Fork Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: This greenway is located in western McKean County along sections of Chappel Fork and several tributaries, such as Briggs Run, Buck Lick Run, Bump Run, Coe Run, Crary Run, Hemlock Run, Indian Run, and North Fork Chappel Fork. Also found within this corridor are Briggs Run CA, Chappel Bay CA, and Klondike Upland CA, as well as the supporting landscapes of Briggs Run and Klondike Upland BDAs.

Approximate Size: This entire greenway encompasses just over 3,000 acres, of which approximately 76.17% is conserved in the Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Corydon, Hamilton, and Lafayette Townships

- 82) **Cowanesque River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Located in northeast Potter County, this greenway is found around the headwaters of the Cowanesque River and includes several tributaries, such as Crippen Run, Dodge Hollow Run, Marsh Creek, Moore Hollow Run, and North Branch Cowanesque River. Also found within this corridor is a portion of the supporting landscape of a BDA in Tioga County.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses around 1,800 acres, none of which is conserved at the time of this plan.

Associated Municipalities: Bingham, Harrison, and Hector Townships

- 83) Genesee Forks Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in eastern Potter County between Ulysses and Galeton along Genesee Forks and several tributaries, including California Creek, Dry Run, and Lehman Run. Also found in this corridor is Cushing Hollow BDA and supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 10 miles from the headwaters of Genesee Forks to where it enters Pine Creek west of Galeton. The entire corridor encompasses more than 5,000 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Harrison, Hector, Pike, and Ulysses Townships

- 84) Pine Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: Located in southwestern Jefferson County around Timblin Borough, this greenway is found along sections of several streams in the Pine Run watershed, including Caylor Run, Eagle Run, Middle Branch Pine Run, Nye Branch, Painter Run, and Pine Run.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway is 550 acres, none of which is conserved at the time of this plan.

Associated Municipalities: Perry, Porter, and Ringold Townships, as well as Timblin Borough

- 85) Medix Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk and Clearfield Counties: This greenway is located in northern Clearfield County and southern Elk County along Medix Run and several tributaries, including Jack Dent Branch, Little Medix Run, Shaggers Inn Run, and Sullivan Run. Also found within this corridor are Shagger’s Inn Impoundment BDA and Silver Mill Headwater Swamp CA, as well as the supporting landscapes of Deible/Mix Run CA and Silver Mill Headwater Swamp CA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses more than 4,600 acres, of which approximately 92.51% is conserved within State Game Land #34 and Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Girard, Goshen, and Lawrence Townships in Clearfield County, as well as Benzette and Jay Townships in Elk County

- 86) Moravian Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in eastern Clearfield County along sections of Moravian Run and Dale Run.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 6 miles from the headwaters of Moravian Run to where it enters West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire greenway encompasses 568 acres, of which approximately 12.68% is conserved within State Game Land # 78

Associated Municipalities: Bradford and Graham Townships

- 87) **Deer Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: Situated in northeast Clearfield County, this greenway is found along Deer Creek and several tributaries including Buck Run and Little Deer Creek.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is nearly 9 miles from the headwaters from Deer Creek to where it enters West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 2,300 acres, of which 20.47% is conserved within Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Covington and Girard Townships

- 88) **Upper Three Runs Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is found in northeast Clearfield County along Deer Creek and several tributaries, such as Laurel Swamp Run, Little Moyer Run, Marks Run, and McCloskey Run.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is less than 8 miles from the headwaters of Upper Three Runs to the mouth at West Branch Susquehanna River near the county line. The entire greenway encompasses over 2,400 acres, of which approximately 63.69% is conserved in Moshannon State Forest and Quehanna Wild Area.

Associated Municipalities: Covington and Karthaus Townships

- 89) **Sterling Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Cameron County: This greenway is located in east central Cameron County along Sterling Run and several tributaries, such as Bender Run, Finley Run, May Hollow Run, Portable Run, Snodgrass Run, and Tannery Hollow Run.

Approximate Size: This entire greenway encompasses more than 3,000 acres, none of which is protected.

Associated Municipalities: Gibson, Lumber, and Shippen Townships

- 90) **Genesee River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is situated in northeast Potter County along sections of the Genesee River. Also found within this corridor are Cryder Creek BDA, Genesee River BDA, Genesee River at Hickroix BDA, and Ludlington Run Wetland BDA, as well as the supporting landscapes of Cryder Creek BDA, Ludlington Run Wetlands BDA, West Branch Genesee BDA, and West Branch River at Genesee BDA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is less than 10 miles from the headwaters of the Genesee River to where it exits Potter County north to New York. The entire greenway encompasses slightly over 2,500 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Bingham, Genesee, and Ulysses Townships, as well as Ulysses Borough

- 91) **Elk Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Elk County: This greenway is found in central Elk County along several streams in the Elk Creek watershed, including sections of Elk Creek, Beaver Run, Dagusahonda Run, Gallagher Run, Laurel Run, Mohan Run, Rocky Run, Seventy One, and Water Tank Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of Byrnes Run CA supporting landscape and Boone Mountain LCA.

Approximate Size: The entire corridor encompasses more than 6,700 acres, of which approximately 22.88% is conserved within State Game Lands #25 and #44.

Associated Municipalities: Fox, Jay, and Ridgway Townships, as well as Ridgway Borough and Saint Marys City

- 92) **Montgomery Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in central Clearfield County between Clearfield and Curwensville along Montgomery Creek and several tributaries, including Horn Shanty Branch, North Branch Montgomery Creek, Tinker Run, and West Branch Montgomery Creek. Also found within this corridor are Left Branch Moose Creek Headwaters BDA and Hemlock Trail BDA supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 7 miles from the headwaters to the mouth at West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 1,800 acres, of which approximately 76.61% is conserved within Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Lawrence, Pike, and Pine Townships

- 93) **South Woods Branch Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: Located in western Potter County east of Austin, this greenway is found along South Woods Branch and several of its tributaries, including Baker Run, Dry Run, and Pine Run. Also found within this corridor is South Woods Branch BDA and its supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 12 miles from the headwaters of South Woods Branch to the mouth at First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek. The entire greenway encompasses over 3,500 acres, of which approximately 40.46% is conserved within Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Eulalia, Homer, Keating, and Sylvania Townships, as well as Austin Borough

- 94) **Little Clearfield Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in Clearfield County along Little Clearfield Creek and several tributaries, including Campbell Run, Carson Run, Gazzam Run, Green Run, Laurel Run, McNeel Run, Stony Run, and Wallace Run. Also found within this greenway is Dimeling Road BDA.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is more than 14 miles from the headwaters to the mouth of Little Clearfield Creek at Clearfield Creek. The entire greenway encompasses more than 5,500 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Boggs, Ferguson, Greenwood, Jordan, Knox, Lawrence, and Pike Townships

- 95) **Witmer Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in south central Clearfield County along North and South Witmer Runs and several tributaries, including Comfort Run, Davidson Run, Hockenberry Run, Holes Run, Hunter Run, McDonald Run, Raccoon Run, Strong Run, and Sucker Run. Also found within this corridor is a portion of Rogues Harbor Run LCA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses over 5,600 acres, of which approximately 33.7% is conserved within State Game Land #120.

Associated Municipalities: Beccaria, Chest, and Jordan Townships, as well as Irvona Borough

- 96) **Sandy Creek Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Clearfield County: This greenway is located in northeast Clearfield County along sections of Sandy Creek, Big Sandy Run, and Little Sandy Creek.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 9 miles from the headwaters to where Sandy Creek enters the West Branch Susquehanna River. The entire greenway encompasses more than 1,300 acres, of which approximately 18.16% is conserved in Moshannon State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Covington and Girard Townships

- 97) **Mill Creek (Potter County) Natural System Greenway Corridor**– Potter County: This greenway is situated in Potter County east of Coudersport along several streams in the Mill Creek watershed, including Dry Run, Lyman Creek, Mill Creek, Nelson Run, and Trout Run. Also found within this corridor is Dutchman Hill BDA as well as the supporting landscape of South Branch North Fork BDA.

Approximate Size: The entire greenway encompasses more than 4,600 acres, of which approximately 2.44% is conserved within Susquehannock State Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Eulalia, Sweden, and Summit Townships, as well as Coudersport Borough

- 98) **Twomile Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – McKean County: Located in southwest McKean County along Twomile Run and several tributaries, including County Line Run, Negro Run, Wildcat Run, and Windfall Run.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is just over 6 miles from the headwaters to where the stream enters Warren County. The entire greenway encompasses more than 2,500 acres, of which approximately 43.63% is conserved within Allegheny National Forest.

Associated Municipalities: Hamilton and Wetmore Townships

- 99) **Middle Branch Genesee River Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Potter County: This greenway is located in northeast Potter County along the Middle Branch Genesee River.

Approximate Size: The total length of this corridor is nearly 9 miles from the headwaters to the mouth at the Genesee River. The entire corridor is more than 2,300 acres, none of which is conserved at this time.

Associated Municipalities: Allegany, Bingham, Genesee, and Ulysses Townships

- 100) **Wolf Run Natural System Greenway Corridor** – Jefferson County: This greenway is located in eastern Jefferson County west of Falls Creek along several streams in the Wolf Run Watershed,

including Beaverdam Run, Falls Creek, and Kyle Run. Also found within this corridor is Kyle Lake as well as Kyle Lake BDA and supporting landscape.

Approximate Size: The total length of this greenway is just over 6 miles from the headwaters of Beaverdam Run and Kyle Run to the mouth of Falls Creek at Wolf Run. The entire corridor encompasses over 2,300 acres, none of which is conserved.

Associated Municipalities: Washington Township and Falls Creek Borough

The 24 High Priority Natural System Greenway Corridors proposed here total 114 square miles, of which approximately 28.94% are currently conserved.

### COUNTY RANKINGS AND PRIORITIZATIONS

Once the regional rankings and prioritizations were completed, the corridors were also ranked and prioritized in their respective counties. For prioritization at the County level, three classifications were established based on three equal intervals. The priorities at the County level include:

- *Proposed Exceptional Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

Proposed exceptional priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that contain the highest concentration of natural infrastructure elements in the County.

- *Proposed Significant Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

- The proposed significant priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are situated in locations that support the conservation of exceptional priority corridors.

- *Proposed High Priority Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

The proposed high priority natural systems greenway corridors are those corridors that generally contain several natural infrastructure elements. Many are located in locations that support the conservation of significant priority corridors.

The County rankings and priorities are also indicated on the Regional Rankings and Priorities Chart.

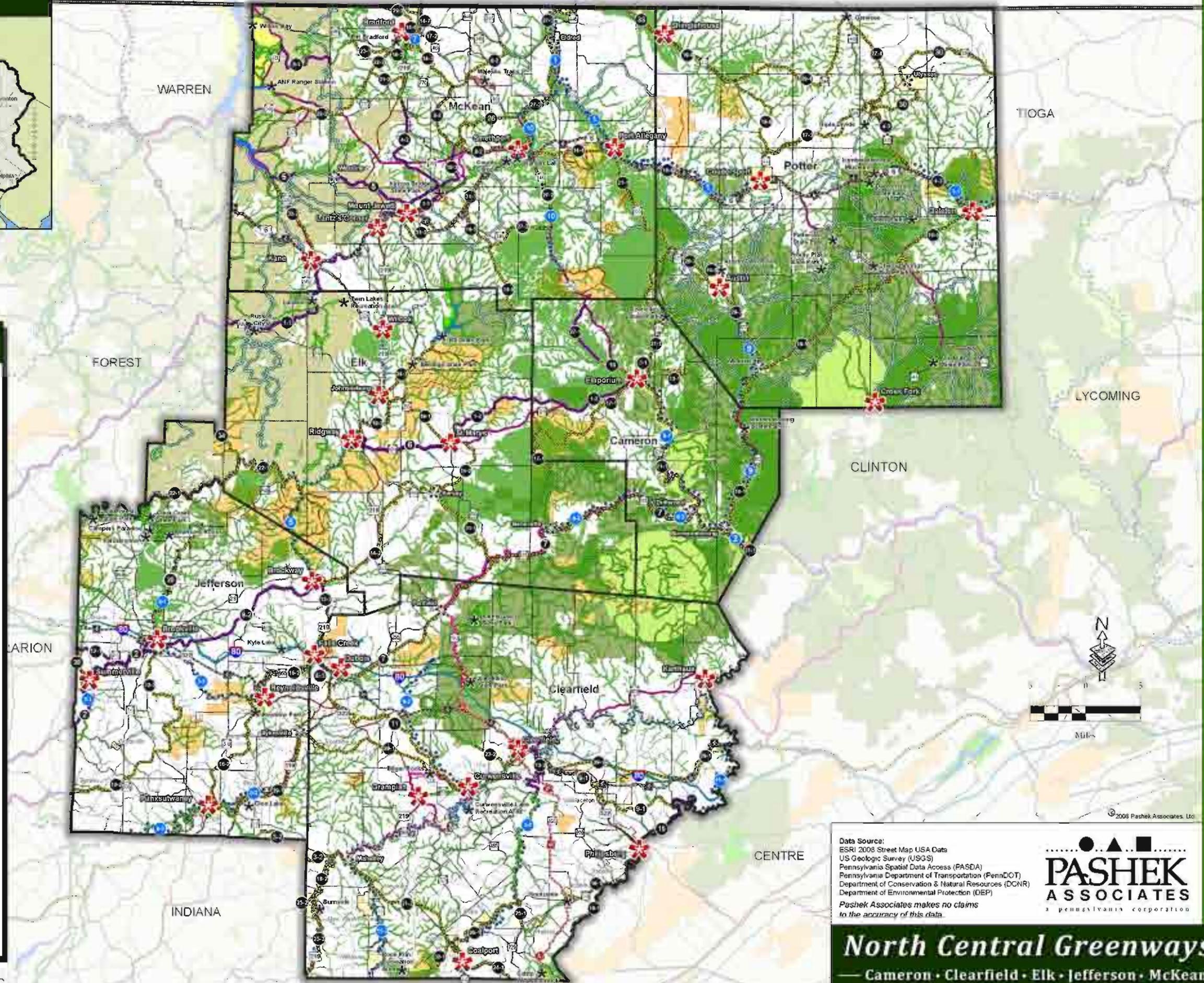
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# Location Map



## Legend

- Base Map Features**
  - County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
  - Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
  - Natural System Greenways
- DCNR Managed Land**
  - State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
  - State Forest Wild & Natural Areas
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
  - Hiking
    - Existing
    - Existing State Game Land Trail
    - Existing Snowmobile
    - Proposed
    - Conceptual
  - Existing Water Trail
  - Proposed Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Scenic Byway
  - Bicycle PA Route
- Points of Interest**
  - Trail Town
  - Major Hub
  - Hub



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.



# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

North Central Pennsylvania Greenways

ARMSTRONG

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# Chapter 3:

## How Do We Get There?



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## HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Defining a vision for the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways is of little importance if that vision cannot be achieved. Therefore in this chapter we will provide recommendations for implementing a variety of strategies to achieve the vision. Strategies are presented in this chapter as follows:



### *REGIONAL ISSUES* ..... p. 3-5

- Management Structure ..... p. 3-5
- Discussion on Land Use ..... p. 3-13
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements ..... p. 3-23
- Pennsylvania Game Commission Bicycle, Equestrian,  
and Snowmobile Designated Routes ..... p. 3-27
- Natural Resource Extraction ..... p. 3-31
- Wind Energy ..... p. 3-37
- Off-Highway Vehicles ..... p. 3-39
- Trail Town Opportunities ..... p. 3-47
- Land Based Trail Implementation Strategies ..... p. 3-49
- Water Trail Implementation Strategies ..... p. 3-51

### *REGIONAL PRIORITIES* ..... p. 3-53

- Knox Kane Corridor ..... p. 3-54
- West Creek Trail Corridor ..... p. 3-56
- Smethport to Duke Center Corridor ..... p. 3-57
- Redbank Creek and Brookville to Brockway Corridors ..... p. 3-59
- Sinnemahoning Creeks and Branches & Elk Creek  
Corridor ..... p. 3-60
- Indiana, Southern Clearfield, Cambria, and Blair  
Counties Corridor ..... p. 3-62
- West Branch Susquehanna River Corridor ..... p. 3-63
- Triple Divide / Genesee River Wilds Corridor ..... p. 3-64

### *POTENTIAL COUNTY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS* ..... p. 3-66

Recommendations and Implementation Strategies for:

- Cameron County Greenways ..... p. 3-67
- Clearfield County Greenways ..... p. 3-87
- Elk County Greenways ..... p. 3-107
- Jefferson County Greenways ..... p. 3-127
- McKean County Greenways ..... p. 3-143
- Potter County Greenways ..... p. 3-167

### *POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES* ..... p. 3-191

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## **REGIONAL ISSUES**

### **MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

In order to successfully implement the recommendations of this greenways plan, there must be adequate capacity in place to lead the advancement and implementation of greenway efforts in the North Central Pennsylvania Region. Towards that end, this process included an analysis of existing professional staff and the potential need for additional professional staff. Each of the six counties in the North Central region, except for Cameron, has a county planner. That said, the county planners do not have support staff to assist with the day to day activities of the respective county planning departments.

Therefore, we recommend a greenway coordinator position be created to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of recommendations described in this plan. To determine how this need may be met, a number of successful management structure models to facilitate the implementation and development of greenways, were discussed including:

- County Parks and / or Greenways and Trails Department
- County Parks and / or Greenways and Trails Advisory Board
- Greenways and Trails Authority
- Greenways and Trails Organization
- Regional Multi-County Greenway Planner

The study committee discussed these options and concluded either the North Central Planning and Development Commission and / or Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council may consider creating this position. As a result of Study Committee discussions the preferred organization to house the greenway planner is the Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council with the second choice being the Headwaters Charitable Trust. The Committee believes these organizations have the best ability to manage and supervise this position and have the project implementation skills as their organization's primary focuses are so closely aligned with many of the recommendations of the plan.

#### *Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council*

DCNR has indicated the Headwaters RC&D is eligible as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to receive Growing Greener Funds for projects eligible under that program. They are, however, not eligible for Keystone Funding for the Circuit Rider Program as these funds are only available to counties, multi-municipal organizations, or Councils of Governments.

To qualify as a multi-municipal organization, the organization must be created under the terms and conditions of the Pennsylvania enabling legislation for intergovernmental cooperation (PA Act 177 of 1996). The Articles of Incorporation of the Headwaters RC&D specifically state as follows:

“The Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes as such purposes 'are defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding section of any future Internal Revenue law of the United States). No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any individual and no member, director, officer, or employee of the Corporation shall receive any pecuniary benefits of any kind except reasonable compensation for services in effecting the corporate purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the

Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, nor shall the Corporation participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing statements of) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. In the event of the dissolution of said Corporation, all of the assets will be distributed to another 501(c)(3) organization having similar purposes to that of this Corporation.”

Further, their bylaws state, “The organization is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan group...”

Even though membership on the executive council includes representatives of Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter counties selected by each County Board of Commissioners; each Conservation District Board of Directors; and each County Planning Board or Commission; it does not meet the requirements for being a multi-municipal organization because it is established as an independent 501(c)3 organization.

#### *Headwaters Charitable Trust*

The Headwaters Charitable Trust was created in 1998 when a Declaration of Trust was made with seven persons identified as Trustees. It holds 501(C)3 non-profit tax status under the Internal Revenue Code. The Trust was incorporated in 1994 as a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Its trustees are privately appointed. The trustees are not appointed by any municipal government of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and it is not governed by municipalities. This Trust does not meet any of the criteria for being a municipal or multi-municipal agency. It is therefore not eligible to Keystone Funding for DCNR’ Circuit Rider Program.

The steering committee’s next choice for housing a greenway coordinator position is the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission. The Commission qualifies as a multi-municipal organization and qualifies to receive the needed funding. We recommend pursuing Circuit Rider funding through the Commission.

#### *North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission*

The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission’s predecessor, North Central Pennsylvania Economic Development District was created in 1966 as an intergovernmental organization for the purpose of economic development within the counties of Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter. According to the Articles of incorporation: “The members of the corporation shall be four in number from each of the counties of Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania plus such other counties in said Commonwealth as may from time to time be admitted...”

In 1974, Articles of Amendment were filed with the Commonwealth to change the name of the District to become the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission. The organization continues to operate under the original charter.

The most recent version of the Commission’s Bylaws continues the multi-municipal nature of the organization by requiring all appointees to the Board to be made by each respective County. The following excerpt from the Bylaws:

*Section 303. Full Board of Directors.*

The authority for administering the affairs of this organization shall be vested in a Full Board of Directors established as follows:

Each member county shall be entitled to six (6) representatives, as follows:

1. Two county commissioners,
2. One local elected official (borough, township, or school board),
3. One industry representative (Chief Executive Officer (CEO), President (Chief decision maker),
4. One county planning director,
5. One member from education/workforce development,
6. One member from each municipality having the status of City,

In addition, a secretary/treasurer will be appointed to serve for both the Full Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. Appointments will be made from candidates submitted by member counties.

*Section 304. Appointment.*

Appointments to the Full Board will be done annually by each member county at the January Full Board Meeting. Member counties will provide selected candidates to the Board by the end of December each calendar year. Appointments will be ratified by the Full Board at the January Full Board Meeting. If a county fails to provide any candidates, then the vacancies will be filled by the Full Board at the January Full Board Meeting.

As a multi-municipal organization, the Commission is eligible for DCNR's Keystone Grant Program, which includes the Circuit Rider Program. The Commission is also an eligible applicant for most other DCNR grant funds.

Other opportunities exist to house this position including:

- Adopting an intergovernmental agreement between participating Counties
- One county sponsoring the position and delegating the authority, to manage and oversee the position, to another agency, such as the Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, through a memorandum of understanding.

DCNR offers a Circuit Rider Grant Program that can provide initial funding for County or regional organizations to hire a professional, full-time staff person. Eligible project costs include only the circuit rider's salary and DCNR-approved technical assistance and training expenses as follows:

- First Year: up to one hundred percent of gross salary
- Second Year: up to seventy-five percent of gross salary
- Third Year: up to fifty percent of gross salary
- Fourth Year: up to twenty-five percent of gross salary
- Training Expenses: up to \$2,000 available for Bureau-approved training expenses over the four years of funding

The parties desiring to participate in this position must provide local funds to cover the circuit rider's employee benefits for all four years; the balance of the salary in years two, three, and four; and normal support services, such as office space and furnishings, training and travel expenses, clerical support, equipment, etc. Startup costs will need to be allocated in the first two years of operation to acquire office furniture and equipment.

The structure and responsibility of this position should be the result of additional dialogue between the potential partners, which should include: Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter Counties; Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Headwaters Charitable Trust, North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and other potential participating public, private, and non-profit organization in the North Central Region.

If necessary, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources may be approached to assist in conducting a Peer to Peer study to evaluate and further provide recommendations for this management structure.

The structures being recommended herein provide two critical components a governmental agency and 501.c.3 non profit agency. This structure will be able to capitalize on the strengths of both types of organizations.

The public component may:

- Educate the public and municipal officials on the benefits of greenways
- Advocate municipalities to improve their land use tools to promote sound land development
- Provide technical assistance to municipalities and other greenway-related agencies
- Ensure consistent conservation and / or development throughout the proposed corridor
- Insure for the general liability of the corridors
- Provide routine maintenance
- Provide law enforcement, when required
- Provide access to government funding

The non-profit component may:

- Provide access to foundation and corporate giving
- Organize and conduct fund-raising events
- Organize volunteers
- Assist with property acquisition
- Leverage volunteers for periodic work days in the corridors
- Organize volunteers to be the eyes and ears of the corridors
- Promote, market, and advocate for the corridors
- Build support for the expansion of the greenway corridors

The final decision on the roles and responsibilities will be an outcome of the development of the management structure and negotiations between the entities that may establish the position.

This public-private partnership model was selected because both the public and the private sector have unique characteristics that provide them with advantages in specific aspects of project service and delivery.

A successful partnership arrangement draws on the strengths of both the public and private sector to establish complementary relationships.

The following describes the public and private components that are envisioned for this partnership:

### ***Public Component***

Public component should be an eligible Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Circuit Rider applicant. Each of the six counties, and the North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission are eligible to serve as the public component.

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development have funded circuit rider positions for greenway planners in several other counties throughout the Commonwealth. Currently, Beaver and Lawrence Counties, two western Pennsylvania counties, are sharing a greenway planner through an intergovernmental agreement. This was one of the first examples of a multi-county position in the Commonwealth.

Given Centre and Clinton Counties are currently in the process of completing Greenway Plans for their respective counties, and the fact they are adjacent counties, and participate in many of the same regional planning efforts as do the North Central Region counties, we recommend consideration be given to including these counties in discussions related to the proposed greenway planner position.

### ***Private Component***

The private component must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to maximize funding opportunities and coordinate volunteer services. Additional responsibilities of this organization may include:

- Coordinating and promoting greenways
- Providing physical labor for organized trail work days
- Providing “eyes and ears” on the trails and in the greenways
- Fundraising
- Producing maps, brochures, newsletters, and other information to educate users and improve the greenways experience
- Advocating and building support for expansion of greenways

The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, the Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, and the Headwaters Charitable Trust are established 501.(c.)3 non-profit organizations which meet this requirement.

Within the context of the participating counties and the region, there are many organizations at the local, municipal, trail corridor, and county levels. Care must be taken to not duplicate the efforts of those organizations, but rather, the proposed management structure must enhance and provide assistance to these existing organizations. Therefore, it is suggested that either a county-wide position or a multi-county management structure will be the be most appropriate.

While considering this analysis and the various options, the consultant recognized the need for an organization that not only provides the management capacity for a specific entity or resources, but for all greenway initiatives throughout the region. Therefore this organization should be flexible enough to address all of the greenway efforts throughout the region.

Job descriptions for existing PA DCNR funded coordinator positions were discussed and provided to the study committee. These job descriptions are included in the Appendix. Further, the budget for the Beaver / Lawrence Counties Shared Greenway and Environmental Planner were provided to and discussed with the committee.

**Sample Greenway Coordinator Budget and Funding Scenario**

It is projected this position will cost the participating entities, on average, \$65,000 per year to establish and maintain. This figure assumes office space and equipment can be provided at no cost for the position by an existing agency.

This funding scenario assumes participation of each if the six counties along with Centre and Clinton Counties. Should one or more counties choose not to participate the funding scenario must be revised to reflect the change.

Year	Salary Counties	Salary DCNR	Salary DCED	Benefits Counties	Travel / Training Counties	Total Annual Cost	Total Cost minus Grants	Six Counties Responsibility (each) <sup>1</sup>	Eight Counties Responsibility (each) <sup>2</sup>
1	\$-	\$40,000	\$-	\$16,000	\$9,000	\$65,000	\$25,000	\$4,167	\$3,125
2	\$11,000	\$30,000	\$-	\$16,400	\$3,000	\$60,400	\$30,400	\$5,067	\$3,800
3	\$22,025	\$20,000	\$-	\$16,810	\$3,000	\$61,835	\$41,835	\$6,973	\$5,229
4	\$33,075	\$10,000	\$-	\$17,230	\$3,000	\$63,305	\$53,305	\$8,884	\$6,663
5	\$44,151	\$-	\$-	\$17,660	\$3,000	\$64,811	\$64,811	\$10,802	\$8,101
6	\$45,254	\$-	\$-	\$18,101	\$3,000	\$66,355	\$66,355	\$11,059	\$8,294
7	\$46,385	\$-	\$-	\$18,554	\$3,000	\$67,939	\$67,939	\$11,323	\$8,492
8	\$47,544	\$-	\$-	\$19,016	\$3,000	\$69,560	\$69,560	\$11,593	\$8,695
<b>Totals Over 8 Yrs.</b>	<b>\$249,434</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$139,771</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$269,771</b>	<b>\$319,205</b>	<b>\$53,201</b>	<b>\$39,901</b>

***Management Structure Recommendation***

Members of the steering committee feel strongly that the greenway planner position would be a tremendous asset to the Counties and their respective organizations who will continue to implement greenway projects. That said, they are also concerned with the current financial climate, and its impact to their counties.

Therefore, we recommend the committee invite established regional greenway planners to meet with them and their county board of commissioners. The purpose of this meeting would be to interview the greenway planner to evaluate the value of the position, to learn of their accomplishments, their successes, and their failures. With this information the committee and their respective counties can make an informed decision as to whether they wish to pursue such a position for the North Central region.

We believe this position is critical to the continued implementation of greenway projects in the North Central region and highly recommend the position be considered. Once established, if the demand for the position's services is greater than can be provided, they counties may wish to consider an additional position.

The DCNR Circuit Rider program operates on an as requested basis, therefore, an application for a Circuit Rider position can be made to DCNR at any time.

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## DISCUSSION ON LAND USE

Implementing sound land use practices addresses both our community and economic development needs, and allows the Commonwealth to improve, not diminish, the quality of life for the residents of our cities, boroughs, townships, and small villages.

Sound land use is not synonymous with no growth. To be a proponent of sound land use practices does not make you an opponent of growth. Rather, sound land use practices promote growth in a smart and efficient way.

### *The Consequences of Not Planning*

Without responsible land use planning, land is permanently committed to new uses – which may not enhance our environment or our economies.

### *Why Plan?*

- Where do we want to develop?
- What do we want to develop?
- How do we develop?

### *Existing Land Use Tools Inventory*

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) requires each county to prepare a comprehensive plan. This plan must be updated no less than every ten years.

A comprehensive plan establishes community development objectives for a municipality. A plan is an expression of how a community sees itself in the future and sets forth a desired pattern of development. An improved quality of life for the entire community is the reward for fulfilling planning responsibilities delegated to local government officials. An adopted comprehensive plan is not the legal equivalent of a land use ordinance. It is an overall plan embracing general goals and objectives which a governing body uses in making day-to-day decisions.

The six counties of the North Central region have each adopted County Comprehensive Plans. Each of these plans are current.

The MPC defines a “land use ordinance” as “any ordinance or map adopted pursuant to the authority granted in Article IV, V, VI and VII.” Therefore, the following are land use ordinances:

1. Official Map
2. Subdivision and Land Development
3. Zoning
4. Planned Residential Development Provisions and Traditional Neighborhood Development Provisions

Each of the counties, with the exception of Elk County, also have adopted Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances (SALDO).

Subdivision and land development regulations offer municipalities a degree of protection against unwise, poorly planned growth. The community ensures proper placement of public improvements such as new roads, water and sewer lines and drainage systems. Regulations also provide that improvements are installed and paid for by the developer and not the taxpayers. By requiring review and inspection reports from the municipal engineer, local officials guarantee that public improvements are properly designed and constructed.

Under its authority to regulate “land development,” a municipality that has not enacted zoning can regulate any improvement of land involving two or more residential buildings or any nonresidential building even if they are located on an existing lot. Different types of development require different standards (i.e. mobile home parks, office complexes, shopping centers, multifamily residential). Therefore, standards should be established for each type of development. To be valid, standards must be reasonable, objective and whenever possible, quantifiable.

By adopting standards for land development, communities can avert complaints about storm water runoff, hazardous traffic patterns, limited parking and dangerous egress and ingress locations. It is less expensive and much easier to identify potential problems prior to construction rather than taking expensive corrective actions after construction is completed. Failure to control development today creates problems that must be coped with for decades. Municipalities can require the developer to do it right and pay for public facilities located on the site if specific provisions and requirements are spelled out in the local ordinance.

Poorly planned and constructed developments are painful to live with and expensive to correct. Lack of municipal inspections can result in substandard public improvements that could prove to be a subsequent financial hardship to the municipality.

Zoning is a tool a community may utilize to regulate the use of land and the location and intensity of development. It is initiated by the adoption of a zoning ordinance designed to protect the public health, safety and welfare as well as to guide growth. A zoning ordinance consists of two parts - the text and a map of the various zoning districts. The text of the ordinance contains community development objectives and necessary technical provisions to regulate the use of land and structures. The text contains written provisions for bulk, height, area, setback, density and other standards. The zoning map delineates the boundaries of the specific districts or zones created by the ordinance.

In basic terms, a zoning ordinance divides all land within a municipality into zones or districts, and creates regulations that apply generally to the municipality as a whole as well as specific individual districts. In its preparation stage, the zoning ordinance should incorporate the existing and future needs documented in the comprehensive plan. Zoning should allow all feasible types of land uses and developments.

This does not mean that all development, regardless of potential negative impacts, must be given approvals and cannot be required to meet standards. However, zoning standards should be reasonable and not excessive. Unnecessarily stringent standards can contribute to unhealthy community trends.

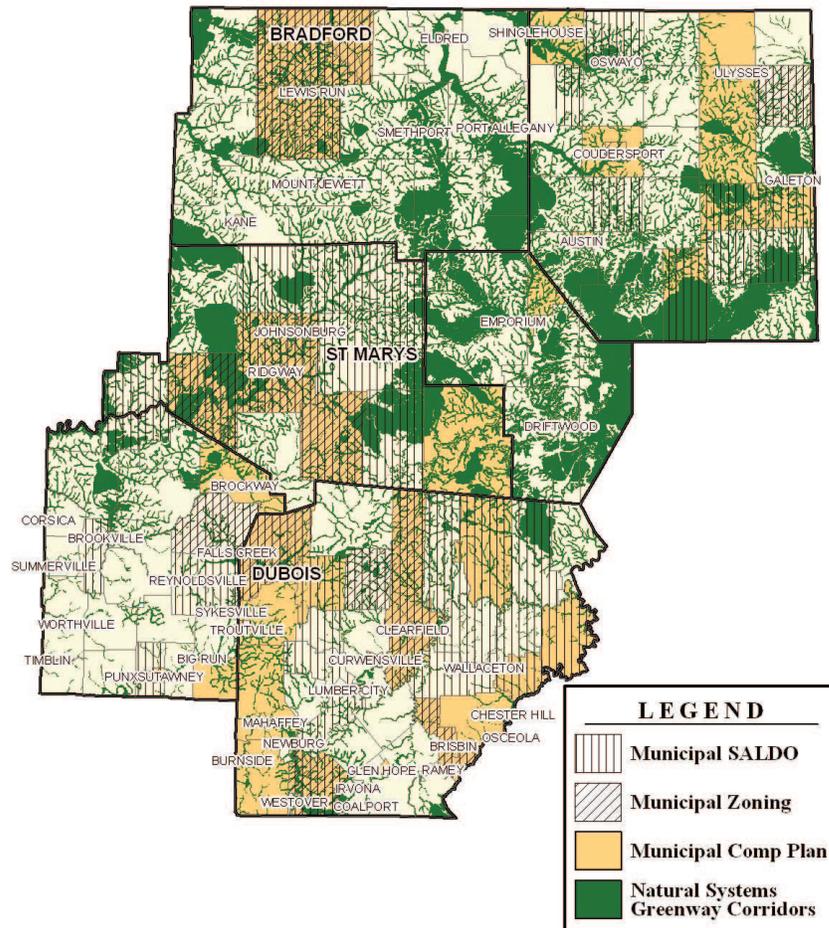
Only Cameron County has adopted county-wide zoning.

County	Comprehensive Plan	Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Cameron	✓	✓	✓
Clearfield	✓	✓	-
Elk	✓	-	-
Jefferson	✓	-	-
McKean	✓	✓	-
Potter	✓	✓	-

An inventory of land use tools at the municipal level indicates some municipalities have adopted comprehensive plans, few have adopted SALDO's, and even fewer have adopted zoning ordinances. This trend is to be expected in rural Pennsylvania as typically there is insufficient land development activity to warrant the development, adoption, administration, and enforcement of such land use tools.

### MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE INVENTORY

Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, & Potter Counties



That said it appears that Marcellus shale extraction activities in the North Central region are causing elected officials and residents of the region to discuss both the positive and negative impacts of this activity, and to discuss how the negative impacts can be minimized.

The anticipated growth of employees, wages, and wealth from gas activity will lead to new housing and business development. There may be places, like vacant properties in towns, where development is more desirable, and places, like farms and rural areas, where development is less desirable. Zoning is not always popular in rural municipalities, but it can be prepared with common sense and effective regulations for promoting development that matches the community character and preserving historic buildings, agriculture, and open spaces valuable to the community.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) can provide resources to the North Central region municipalities as they evaluate whether to enact various land use tools to respond to the needs of their local communities.

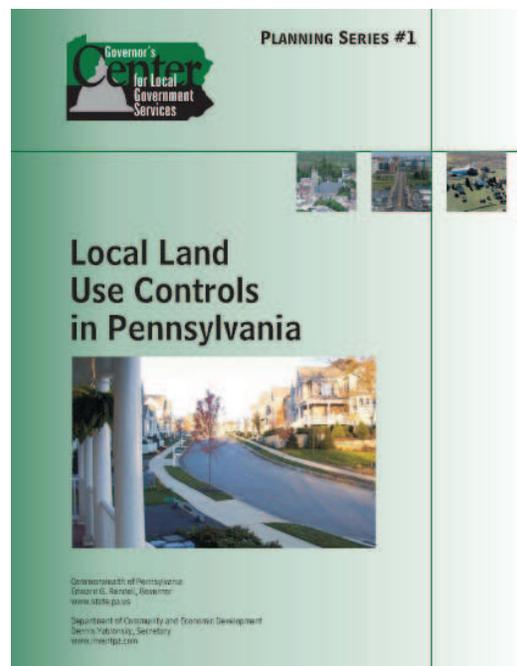
Further, proposed natural and recreation & transportation greenway corridors will pass through public land, such as state forest and parks, state game lands, municipal parks, and other public lands. In these areas, the corridors are generally conserved for the intended use. However, many natural and recreation & transportation greenway corridors will pass through privately-owned land. Some municipalities in the North Central have basic provisions to promote the conservation of the natural system resources. These provisions typically address those features, such as floodplains and wetlands, which are currently protected by a higher authority.

We recommend the county planning agencies work with local municipalities and their elected officials to educate them on the value of strengthening county and local ordinances, to be proactive in conserving natural systems greenways corridors, by encouraging the conservation of riparian buffers (streamside setbacks); steep slope margins; interior forest habitat; woodlands; seasonal high water table soils; heritage trees; and habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

The strengthening of these ordinances is highly recommended to protect the health, safety, and welfare of North Central Pennsylvania residents; to reduce flooding and other stormwater management problems currently being experienced by the region's municipalities; and to reduce the costs of providing public services to maintain and operate the counties' and municipalities' built infrastructure.

As a county or municipality begins this process, we recommend the DCED Planning Series publications be reviewed as they are a good primer on the various land use tools at their disposal.

- Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code
- No. 1 - Local Land Use Controls in Pennsylvania
- No. 2 - The Planning Commission
- No. 3 - The Comprehensive Plan
- No. 4 - Zoning
- No. 5 - Technical Information on Floodplain Management



- No. 6 - The Zoning Hearing Board
- No. 7 - Special Exceptions, Conditional Uses and Variances
- No. 8 - Subdivision and Land Development in Pennsylvania

These publications are available at: [www.newpa.com/get-local-gov-support/publications/index.aspx](http://www.newpa.com/get-local-gov-support/publications/index.aspx)  
As municipalities begin to seriously consider these tools, their respective county planning department, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development can provide further detail and guidance in the process.

Equally important to establishing greenways in North Central Pennsylvania are easement agreements for conservation of land, public access along trail corridors, public access along streams for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking, etc.

As investments are made to secure and develop these corridors, it is important to ensure these improvements will be available for future generations to use. Therefore, well-crafted easement agreements should be executed with willing land owners and officially recorded with the respective county recorder of deeds to ensure these corridors will remain intact.

A well crafted easement agreement sets the expectations and defines the responsibilities of both the property owner and the agency or organization with whom they are entering into the easement agreement.

The Pennsylvania Association of Land Trusts has developed model easement agreements for the following uses:

- Model Trail Easement Agreement
- Model Fishing Access Agreement
- Model Riparian Forest Buffer Protection Agreement
- Water Quality Improvement Easement

The model easement agreements also have a companion commentary which explains in plain terms the legal clauses contained in the agreements. This commentary is very useful as it helps to explain the reason for each and every provision in the agreement, and it identifies why it is important to have such a provision in the agreement for the benefit of the property owner and / or easement recipient. These model easements can be obtained from: <http://conserveland.org/modeleasements>.

During the course of this study, we have learned that some trail corridors have been obtained through verbal agreements with land owners, through one page agreements with land owners, etc. We strongly recommend county planning staff work with local and regional trail organizations to educate them on the value of securing a properly crafted, executed, and recorded easement agreement.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND WATER QUALITY

Stormwater is defined by the Pennsylvania Storm Water Management Act as *Drainage runoff from the surface of the land resulting from precipitation or snow or ice melt.*

Stormwater management involves more than just managing stormwater because it includes restoration, reclamation, protection, and maintenance of the quality and quantity of water resources within our Commonwealth. Stormwater management means keeping the amount of surface runoff in a proper balance with the amount of stormwater that becomes:

- ground water by infiltrating (or soaking) into the ground;
- evapotranspiration by evaporating directly into the atmosphere or by transpiring through plant processes and then evaporating; or
- stored water for various uses.

Stormwater management affects and involves all of the possible avenues precipitation might follow after it hits the ground. Water is a vital natural resource making stormwater management a vital function; therefore, stormwater management is the process of planning for and managing water resources.

Human activities that result in changes in land cover, or land use, often affect the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff from the land surface. These changes can produce potentially harmful impacts on water resources, such as:

- increases in damages from flooding;
- loss of dry weather stream flows;
- degradation of streams and stream channels from scour, erosion, or deposition; and
- loss of aquatic habitat, loss of aquatic species, and loss of community water supplies.

These effects can be minimized or avoided through the careful preparation and implementation of comprehensive stormwater management plans.

The Pennsylvania legislature enacted the Storm Water Management Act, No. 167, in 1978 (Act 167). Act 167 establishes a comprehensive systematic program for counties to develop comprehensive watershed-based stormwater management plans that provide control measures for development and activities that affect stormwater runoff, including quality, quantity, and groundwater recharge. These control measures are implemented through the adoption of ordinances and regulations by local municipalities.

Act 167 requires counties to prepare, periodically update, and adopt Plans for all 372 stormwater management watersheds that have been designated by the Environmental Quality Board. During the Plan development process, counties establish a plan advisory committee consisting of county planners, municipal representatives, conservation district personnel, and other interested groups and individuals. This committee provides the valuable expertise, perspective, and advice needed to address the local governments' and citizens' recommendations and concerns. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) helps provide technical, administrative and financial assistance to counties as they prepare Plans.

Proper stormwater management and water quality management are two important issues that impact many facets of daily life in North Central Pennsylvania region.

*Source: PA DEP Fact Sheet: The PA Stormwater Mgmt Act 167 Planning Program*

From an analysis of The National Climatic Data Center, the North Central Pennsylvania counties are ranked as follows when it comes to total number of flood events between 1950 and 2000.

Counties	No. Flood Events	Rank
Clearfield	44	31
Jefferson	33	45
McKean	30	48
Elk	21	57
Potter	14	65
Cameron	10	67

Source: [http://pasc.met.psu.edu/PA\\_Climatologist/extreme/Floods/PEMA\\_flood.html](http://pasc.met.psu.edu/PA_Climatologist/extreme/Floods/PEMA_flood.html)

Over the years, flooding has been an issue along many of the creeks in the region. Therefore, it is recommended that local municipalities work with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to identify potential projects that can reduce and / or eliminate flood impacts in these areas.

Further, it is recommended that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection work with local municipalities in the North Central region to educate them on the benefits of stormwater management practices, including the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual.

The philosophy of managing stormwater has changed over the years. Initially, stormwater management began with ensuring water was diverted around development. This had negative consequences, as we have learned, that increases in stormwater runoff volumes caused downstream flooding.

The remedy was to introduce requirements to maintain the rate of stormwater runoff from a site to pre-development conditions despite an increase in impervious area. The consequence of this was that stormwater was being held and released at the pre-development rate, reducing downstream flooding impacts.

However, this also created its own set of problems. First, we have learned that water quality was being negatively impacted, as sediment and chemicals were not being filtered from the stormwater. Therefore, our streams which received the stormwater were being polluted, and the water quality was being impaired. Second, we realized that due to an increase in impervious areas, and development of stormwater ponds that released water directly to streams, our water tables were not being adequately recharged.

Therefore, current stormwater practices not only take into consideration the management of stormwater runoff rates; but also they also take into consideration volume, infiltration, and water quality.

The goal of current stormwater management practices is to retain the rates and volumes of stormwater runoff to pre-development levels; infiltrate stormwater into the site when possible; and maintain and / or improve water quality of the receiving stream by filtering chemicals and sediment from the water before it reaches its receiving stream and / or water body.

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual is to provide guidance, options, and tools that can be used to protect water quality; enhance water availability; and reduce

flooding potential through effective stormwater management. The manual presents design standards and planning concepts for use by local authorities, planners, land developers, engineers, contractors, and others involved with planning, designing, reviewing, approving, and constructing land development projects.

The manual describes a stormwater management approach to the land development process that strives to prevent or minimize stormwater problems through comprehensive planning and development techniques, and to mitigate any remaining potential problems by employing structural and non-structural best management practices. Manual users are strongly encouraged to follow the progression of prevention first and mitigation second. Throughout the chapters of the manual, the concept of an integrated stormwater management program, based on a broad understanding of the natural land and water systems, is a key and recurring theme. Such a thorough understanding of the natural systems demands an integrated approach to stormwater management so critical to “doing it better, doing it smarter.”

The manual provides guidance on managing all aspects of stormwater: rate, volume, quality, and groundwater recharge. Controlling the peak rate of flow during extreme rainfall events is important, but it is not sufficient to protect the quality and integrity of Pennsylvania streams. Reducing the overall volume of runoff during large and small rainfall events, improving water quality, and maintaining groundwater recharge for wells and stream flow are all vital elements of protecting and improving the quality of Pennsylvania’s streams and waterways.

We recommend that county planning departments, and local municipalities work with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to identify opportunities within the natural system greenway corridors in which demonstration projects can be implemented to illustrate this current philosophy in stormwater best management practices.

**Natural Resource Conservation**

When an opportunity presents itself, such as a local municipality desiring to incorporate a natural resource conservation ordinance into its subdivision and land development regulations, or a county’s desire to do the same, we recommend consideration be given to strengthen their ordinances to assist in achieving the vision established through the greenways planning effort. Pocopson Township, in Chester County, has adopted a Natural Resource Protection Ordinance that was developed to conserve natural system greenway corridors, within their township, in the context of addressing the goals noted above.

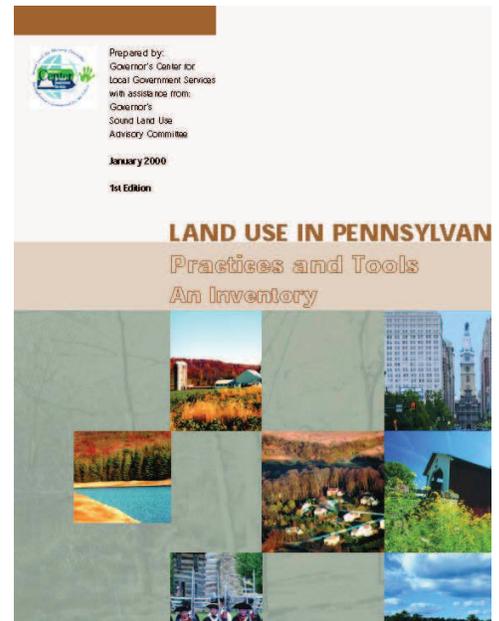
The following table provides a summary of their conservation requirements:

*Pocopson Township*  
**Natural Resource Conservation Requirements**

Resource Element	Pocopson Township
	Maximum Disturbance
Floodplain Conservation District	0%
Very Steep Slopes	10%
Steep Slopes	25%
Steep Slope Margins	25%
Wetlands	0%
Inner Riparian Buffer	0%
Outer Riparian Buffer	15%
Seasonal High Water Table Soils	20%
Heritage Trees	0%
Rare Species Sites	0%
Exceptional Natural Areas	10%
Forest Interior Habitat	10%
Woodlands	5-25%, depending on classification

[www.pocopson.org](http://www.pocopson.org)

Each resource element can be selected and included to meet the needs of the respective municipality / county.



**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

The following publications also provide guidance on implementing best practices on a variety of local land use issues.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>For Additional Information</b>
Pennsylvania Standards for Residential Site Development	Penn State University, Pennsylvania Housing Research / Resource Center	<a href="http://www.engr.psu.edu/phrc/Land%20Development%20Standards.htm">www.engr.psu.edu/phrc/Land%20Development%20Standards.htm</a>
Better Development Models for Pennsylvania	The Conservation Fund and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	<a href="http://www.planningpa.org/BetterModels.pdf">www.planningpa.org/BetterModels.pdf</a>
Putting Conservation into Local Plans and Ordinances	Natural Lands Trust	<a href="http://www.natlands.org/">http://www.natlands.org/</a>
Recommended Model Development Principles for Blair County, Pennsylvania	Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay	<a href="http://www.alliancechesbay.org/pubs/projects/deliverables-78-1-2006.pdf">www.alliancechesbay.org/pubs/projects/deliverables-78-1-2006.pdf</a>
Resource Protection Ordinance	Pocopson Township	<a href="http://www.pocopson.org">www.pocopson.org</a>
Model Conservation Ordinance	Pennsylvania Land Trust Association	<a href="http://conserveland.org">http://conserveland.org</a>
Model Riparian Forest Buffer Protection Ordinance	Pennsylvania Land Trust Association	<a href="http://conserveland.org">http://conserveland.org</a>
Stream Corridor Protection Ordinance - Upper Salford Township	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission	<a href="http://www.dvrpc.org/planning/community/protectiontools/ordinances.htm">www.dvrpc.org/planning/community/protectiontools/ordinances.htm</a>

**PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS**

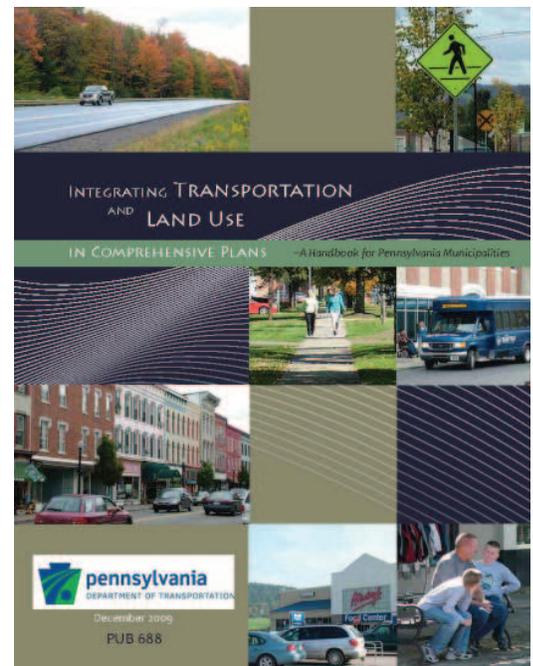
Throughout Pennsylvania many counties and municipalities have been concerned with some of PennDOT regional districts' view towards pedestrian and bicycle improvements associated with state routes. Traditionally, PennDOT focused attention on vehicular issues and has given little attention, if any, towards pedestrian and bicycle accommodations.

However, Pennsylvania's Mobility Plan, published by PennDOT in 2007, indicates the pedestrian and bicycle trends have dramatically increased in the past ten years.

Mode	Major Trends	Implications
PEDESTRIAN	<p>The total number of walking trips for all purposes has increased significantly, even as the total percentage of pedestrian journey-to-work trips has declined slightly.</p> <p>The percentage of Pennsylvania adults who are overweight has risen steadily in recent years. In 1999, 53 percent of Pennsylvania adults were overweight or obese; this increased to 61 percent in 2004. Obesity is a major health issue associated with chronic diseases, significant medical care costs, and lost productivity. Increasing access to safe pedestrian facilities can serve to boost walking trips for both recreation and mobility.</p>	<p>Pennsylvanians are showing an increasing understanding of and interest in smart growth and related topics such as community design. PennDOT increasingly finds itself as a partner in this trend.</p> <p>Pedestrian-friendly design supports multiple objectives: expanding mobility options, enhancing community and economic development/tourism and revitalization efforts, and supporting public health policy.</p>
BICYCLE	<p>Total bicycle trips doubled between 1990 and 2001.</p> <p>Walking and bicycling comprise nearly 10 percent of all reported trips.</p>	<p>As demand for bicycle facilities increases, good design standards will become more important. This is a matter of safety for all modes and promotes tourism, community health, and energy efficiency.</p>

Furthermore, PennDOT's recent publication "Integrating Transportation Land Use into Comprehensive Plans –A Handbook for Pennsylvania Municipalities", 2009 recommends:

Transportation and land use need to be considered together for Pennsylvania municipalities to achieve quality of life objectives for their communities. Transportation systems serve communities in various ways: the regional transportation system provides the mobility to travel throughout the region quickly, whereas the local network provides travelers access to the places that they want to go—home, work, school, shopping, appointments, activities, etc. Pennsylvania municipalities should consider how their transportation system meets both the mobility and accessibility needs of the community. Concurrently, municipal land use policies help shape and rearrange the origins and destinations



of travel and can either support or hinder mobility and accessibility. Transportation operates most efficiently when it provides a connected network of transportation modes serving a mix of land uses in close proximity. This type of system provides the traveler with a host of options and makes it possible to make fewer, shorter trips and be less dependent on a personal automobile.

A variety, or mix, of land uses, and an increase in land use densities, can lead to shorter trip distances, a better blend of jobs and housing within a community, and an increase in the use of alternative modes of transportation (walking, biking, transit) because different destinations are closer together. A corner store within walking distance of one's home, for example, means that picking up a bottle of milk can be pleasant exercise rather than requiring another trip to the supermarket by car. Also, by providing a range of transportation choices beyond the automobile, individuals who do not drive are provided with new travel opportunities, and congestion and pollution can be eased. By contrast, separating land use types and/or reducing densities can increase the dependency on motorized transportation, thereby increasing congestion and/or the demand for additional roadways.

Thus, the design of Pennsylvania communities can either encourage or discourage the range of transportation options. Thoughtful and functional land use and transportation design (i.e., streetscapes, roadway design, traffic calming, and the connection of PennDOT | Integrating Transportation and Land Use into Comprehensive Plans commercial and residential developments) can provide a safer environment for travel and encourage the development of healthy communities that appeal to all citizens including pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders. Where applicable, roadways should be designed to be "Complete Streets" to accommodate vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, the disabled, and transit by providing travel lanes, sidewalks, bike lanes, wider shoulders, raised crosswalks and medians, audible traffic signals, bus pullouts, and improved access to bus stops.



*State Road with parallel shared-use path, Centre County*

Another publication "Smart Transportation Guidebook - Planning and Designing Highways and Streets that Support Sustainable and Livable Communities", 2008, PennDOT and NJDOT ,

Smart Transportation proposes to manage capacity by better integrating land use and transportation planning. The desire to go "through" a place must be balanced with the desire to go "to" a place. Roadways have many purposes, including providing local and regional mobility, offering access to homes and businesses, and supporting economic growth.

The guidebook was developed to agencies, local governments, developers and others plan and design roadways that fit within the existing and planned context of the community through which they pass.

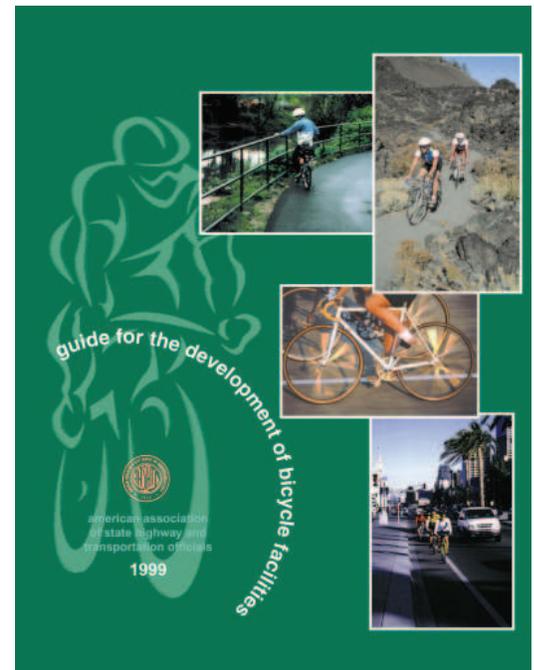
Some regional PennDOT districts may not be including pedestrian and bicycle accommodations in their transportation improvement process. Therefore, we recommend the North Central Region Planning Organization, its counties, and its municipalities continue to advocate for pedestrian and bicycle improvements, where appropriate, during the planning, design, and construction of state route improvements. Pedestrian and bicycle accommodations have been recognized in PennDOT's Strategic Plan objectives, and therefore, must be considered.

Currently, the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials publication "Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities", is recognized by PennDOT as the guiding document. It sets forth the standards and requirements for bicycle facility improvements. Therefore, it should be consulted early in the design process to determine how a transportation improvement project can incorporate bicycle accommodations.

### *Additional Resources*

PennDOT's smart transportation website, [smart-transportation.org](http://smart-transportation.org), provides links to following additional resources.

- Smart Transportation Interim Guidance Policy
- Pennsylvania's Keystone Principles
- Keystone Principles and Criteria for Growth, Investment, and Resource Conservation
- PennDOT's 2008 Sound Land Use Implementation Plan
- A Guide for Achieving Flexibility in Highway Design, 2004. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- Flexibility in Highway Design, by the Federal Highway Administration
- NCHRP Report 480 A Guide to Best Practices for Achieving Context Sensitive Solutions
- Pennsylvania's Traffic Calming Handbook
- Roundabouts: An Informational Guide by FHWA
- PennDOT Guide to Roundabouts
- Transportation Research Board Transportation Research Circular #E-C100: Linking Transportation and Land Use
- Maine DOT Sensible Transportation Handbook
- Wayfinding Toolkit
- Traffic Calming Examples
- Bicycling and Pedestrian Checklist
- AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities
- Roadside Planting Guidebook
- Public Involvement Guidebook
- New York City Street Design Manual
- Journal of Planning Literature: The Built Environment and Traffic Safety: A Review of Empirical Evidence
- Congestion Mitigation and Smart Transportation
- Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Urban and Suburban Zoning Codes



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## PA GAME COMMISSION'S BICYCLE, EQUESTRIAN & SNOWMOBILE DESIGNATED ROUTES

The Pennsylvania Game Commission has designated routes for bicycle, equestrian, and snowmobile use in many of their game lands. These route designations are governed by the Commission's regulations for use of these lands. These routes were inventoried and mapped for the North Central region during the course of this project. In some instances these routes are the only alternative to provide continuity of an existing or proposed trail corridor. In other instances conceptual or proposed trails may be designated through game lands however a designated use route is not recognized for these corridors. Where this occurs it is illegal to use the corridor for trail related activities until such time the Commission may establish a designated use corridor.

Permitted activities along designated use routes are subject to the Commission's regulation. Under these regulations, anyone who rides a non-motorized vehicle, conveyance or animal on State Game Lands must do so only on designated routes. Such riding activities will not be permitted, except on Sundays or on roads open to public travel, from the last Saturday in September to the third Saturday in January, and after 1 p.m. from the second Saturday in April to the last Saturday in May. This does not apply to anyone lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing on State Game Lands.

Snowmobiles may be driven beginning on the third Sunday in January through April 1 on designated areas, roads and trails marked with appropriate signs, so long as snowmobiles are registered and display valid registration decal.

Pennsylvania Code, Title 58 Recreation, Chapter 135 Lands and Buildings, Subchapter 3 State Game Lands sets forth these regulations regarding the use of State Game Lands as follows:

### *§ 135.41. State game lands.*

- (a) Restrictions limited. The following exceptions to § 135.2 (relating to unlawful actions) pertain to lands and waters designated as State game lands:
  - 1. Mushrooms and fruits of berry-producing plants may be picked.
  - 2. Small open fires for cooking or warming purposes are permitted only at places where adequate precautions are taken to prevent the spread of fire which may damage adjacent areas and shall be attended at all times and completely extinguished before leaving the site of the fire. Open fires are prohibited when the fire index rating used by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, is high, very high or extreme. A person causing a wildfire, in addition to possible criminal penalty, is liable for all damages, cost of extinguishing and fines.
  - 3. Snowmobiles, as defined in 75 Pa.C.S. § 7702 (relating to definitions) may be driven beginning on the third Sunday in January through April 1 on designated areas, roads and trails marked with appropriate signs, so long as snowmobiles are registered and display valid registration decal as required under 75 Pa.C.S. § 7711.1 and 7711.2 (relating to registration of snowmobile or ATV; and limited registration of snowmobile or ATV).
- (b) Closure of game lands.
  - 1. When the threat of forest fires exists, the Director has emergency authority to restrict the use of smoking materials on State game lands or to close State game lands to hunting, trapping, fishing, recreational use and other activity which may be or become detrimental to those lands

or the flora or fauna thereon until the Director removes the restrictions. Emergency restrictions or closures will be announced to the news media.

2. The Director has the authority to close State game lands or portions thereof, to recreational or other uses, when the specified uses may be or have become detrimental to those lands or the flora or fauna thereon, or where the uses conflict with legal hunting, furtaking or fishing activities or the Commission's management or administration of State game lands. The closure may be seasonal or year-round and shall remain in effect until the Director removes the restrictions.
3. It is unlawful to violate restrictions or closure placed on these lands by the Director.

(c) Additional prohibitions. In addition to the prohibitions contained in the act pertaining to State game lands and § 135.2, except with the written permission of the Director, it is unlawful to:

1. Contaminate, pollute or degrade groundwaters or surface waters or any waterways.
2. Graze or permit the grazing of livestock, place or maintain beehives or beekeeping apparatus.
3. Solicit, or place advertisements, signs or posters.
4. Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal, except on roads normally open to public travel, or designated routes as posted, or while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.
5. Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal from the last Saturday in September until the third Saturday in January, and before 1 p.m. from the second Saturday in April through the last Saturday in May inclusive, except on Sundays or while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.
6. Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal on roads open to foot travel only.
7. Drive motor vehicles with or without attachments having a registered gross vehicle weight in excess of 12,000 pounds.
8. Use boats propelled by a motor. Battery powered electric motors may be used on waterways unless posted otherwise.
9. Consume, possess or transport any alcohol, liquor, beer, malt or brewed alcoholic beverage.
10. Use or possess any controlled substance as defined or classified under The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (35 P. S. § 780-101—780-143).
11. Occupy, use or construct, place or maintain structures or other tangible property, except that portable hunting blinds or stands may be used, provided no visible damage is caused to trees.
12. Feed wildlife or lay or place any food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals.
13. Release domestic animals, captive bred or captive raised game or wildlife.
14. Operate a motor vehicle in willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property or in excess of posted speed limits, or where no speed limit is posted, in excess of 25 miles per hour.
15. Target shoot with firearms, bows and arrows or devices capable of launching projectiles in a manner that could cause injury to persons or property, or on areas posted closed to those activities.
16. Except as provided in Subchapter J (relating to shooting ranges), discharge any firearm, bow and arrow, or device capable of launching projectiles that is not a lawful device to hunt game or wildlife.
17. Engage in an activity or event involving more than ten persons, which may conflict with the intended purposes or uses as defined in section 722 of the act (relating to use of property), or poses a potential environmental or safety problem.
18. Sell, distribute, deliver, service, guide or rent any equipment, material or commodity or otherwise transact or engage in any commercial activity. Commercial activity is any activity

in which a person directly or indirectly accepts consideration of value as compensation for the provision of goods or services, including transportation.

19. Use State game lands for any personal, organizational or commercial purpose other than the intended use as defined in section 722 of the act.
20. Operate under authority of a contract, lease, agreement or permit and fail to abide by the terms and conditions contained in the contract, lease, agreement or permit.
21. Except on Sundays, be present on State game lands from November 15 through December 15 inclusive when not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping and fail to wear a minimum of 250 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange-colored material on the head, chest and back combined or, in lieu thereof, a hat of the same colored material. The material shall be worn so it is visible in a 360° arc. Persons using shooting ranges are exempted from this requirement.
22. Shoot clay birds anywhere except areas designated by the Director by signs stating that clay bird shooting is permitted.

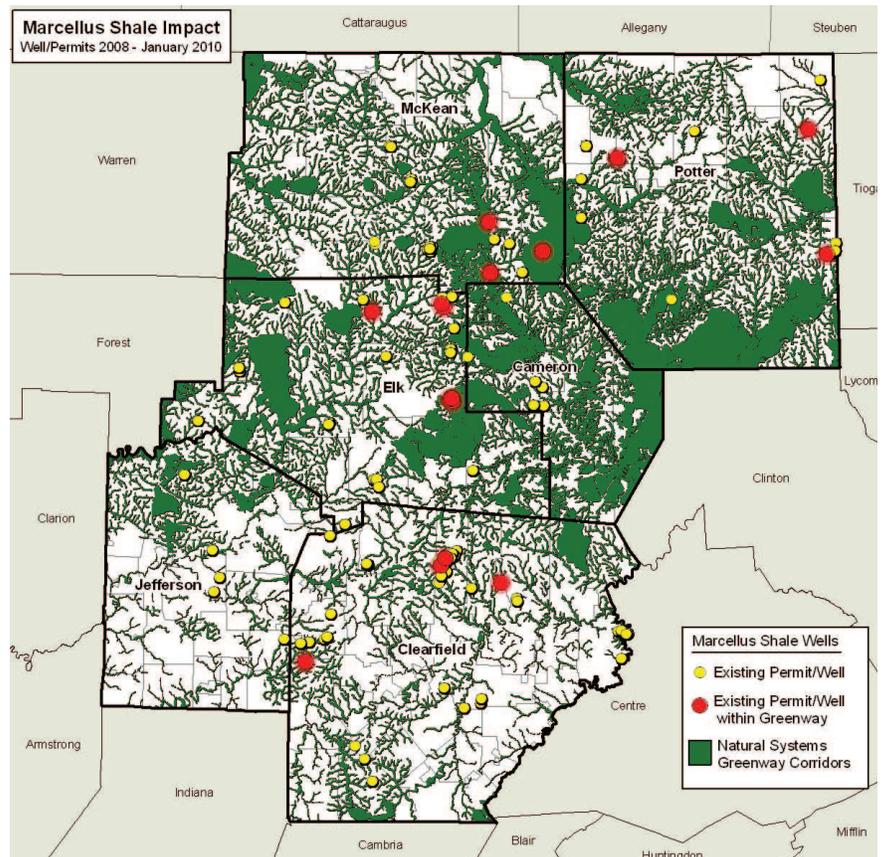
These regulations restrict the use of a designated use corridor for five and one half months of the year. Therefore, we recommend potential alternatives be explored before relying on the use of a designated corridor to fulfill the need of providing continuity of a corridor.

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**NATURAL RESOURCE EXTRACTION**

Marcellus Shale Permits by County – 2008 to 1/2010:

Cameron County.....	7
Clearfield County ....	81
Elk County.....	38
Jefferson County.....	6
McKean County .....	18
Potter County.....	35
 Total to Date: .....	 186
No. in Nat. Sys. Corridors.....	23
	12%



Municipal regulation of shale gas drilling is extremely limited due to preemption by the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Act. That said some communities have addressed it through Zoning, which, to date, has been held up in court. Outside of this the only opportunity to establishing requirements above and beyond the Oil and Gas Act are through drilling agreements between the property owner and the gas/drilling companies.

***Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Oil and Gas Lease for State Forest Lands***

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry has developed a seventy-plus page Oil and Gas Agreement for oil and gas leases occurring of Bureau of Forestry lands. With this lease agreement the Bureau of Forestry establishes their expectations and protects sensitive resources that have been identified by establishing standards and expectations that the Lessee is responsible to follow.

The following is an outline of this lease agreement, with emphasis of those provisions that assist with achieving the goals of natural systems greenway corridors.

**PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry Oil and Gas Lease Outline for State Forest Lands**

1. Lease Term
2. Lease Recording and Public Notice

3. Rental
4. Gas Royalty
5. Oil Royalty
6. Payments
7. Gas Measurement
8. Audits
9. Interpretation
10. Limitation on Warranty
11. Laws, Rules, and Regulations
12. Indemnity and Hold Harmless
13. Liability
14. Assignments
15. Related Agreements
16. Financial Security
17. Comprehensive and Pollution Liability Insurance
18. Deep Well Control Insurance and Safety
19. Operations, Protections, and Conservation
20. First Well
21. Subsequent Wells
22. Development and Well Spacing
23. Drilling Standards

23.01 ...shall comply with the following restrictions.

No drilling or well site clearing is permitted within:

- (a) 200 feet of any building;
- (b) 200 feet of any stream or body of water;
- (c) 300 feet of any stream or other body of water designated by the Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Quality Board as being Exceptional Value Waters;
- (d) 300 feet of any picnic area or sheltered area which has been so designated by Department;
- (e) 300 feet of any trail, road, existing right-of-way, or defining line of any scenic viewshed or municipal watershed;
- (f) 300 feet of any area of historic value, tree plantation, designated overlook, designated vista or fire tower site;
- (g) 300 feet of the boundary line of the leased premises;
- (h) 600 feet of the boundary line of State Park lands or of designated Wild and Natural Areas on State Forest lands; or
- (i) In addition the following specific restrictions for this lease shall also apply:  
At the time of the issuance of this lease agreement, the Department has identified certain Non-Development Areas and Areas of Special Consideration on the leased premises as shown on Exhibit "H" and described as follows:

24. Drilling Operations
25. Well Records, Logs and Reports

26. Confidentiality
27. Unitization
28. Offsets
29. Oil and Gas Pipelines
30. Gas Storage Rights
31. Seismic Surveys
32. Test of Well Economy
33. Plugging
34. Department's Termination
35. Lessee's Termination
36. Force Majore
37. Removal

37.01 .....to restore the property to the same condition as when received.

38. Rights Reserved by the Department
39. Third Party Rights
40. Dispute Resolution
41. Contractor Integrity Provisions
43. Headings
44. Release
45. Binding Effect

*EXHIBIT "C" Stipulations for Protection and Conservation of State Forest Lands*

1. Environmental Quality Control
  2. Protection of Property and Operations
  3. Public Land Use
  4. Hunting and Fishing
  5. Animals
  6. Slush Pit
  7. Siltation
  8. Waters
  9. Forest Growth
  10. Fire
  11. Replacement and Repair of Improvements
  12. Roads, Quarry, and Drilling Sites
  13. Buildings
  14. Appearance
  15. Explosives
  16. Restoration and Revegetation
  17. Water Wells
  18. Pipelines
  19. Rare and Endangered Species
  20. Historical and Archaeological Sites
  21. Contacts with State Agencies

*EXHIBIT “D” Invasive Plants and Revegetation Guidelines for State Forest Lands*

1. Pre-construction Inventory and Mapping
2. Prevention
3. Management
4. Monitoring
5. Reporting
6. Revegetation Plan Guidelines

*EXHIBIT “E” Oil and Gas Lease Access Road Specifications for State Forest Lands*

1. Lease Road Definitions and Specifications
  2. Location
  3. Clearing
  4. Grading
  5. Drainage
  6. Bridges, Culverts, and Fords
  7. Maintenance
  8. Retirement and Abandonment
  9. Gates
  10. Highway Occupancy Permits
  11. Seeding
  12. Use of Existing State Forest Roads

Typical Haul Road Construction Detail  
Typical Road Drainage Detail  
Typical Intercepting Dip Detail  
Typical Water Bar Detail  
Typical Access Gate Details

We recommend county planners, land managers, and other potential partners in the North Central region begin a process of public involvement with respect to oil and gas activities in the region and develop a land owner education component which will promote what land owners can do to conserve those areas of their property that contain sensitive natural resources. Further, this process should inform land owners that they can negotiate an agreement with the oil and gas companies that can respond to their concern and desire to conserve those areas of their property.

### **Additional Marcellus Shale Resources**

The Pennsylvania State University Agricultural Extension provides a number of resources to assist landowners, municipalities and other organizations in understanding issues related to Marcellus shale. These publications can be obtained at <http://extension.psu.edu/naturalgas/publications>.

#### *General*

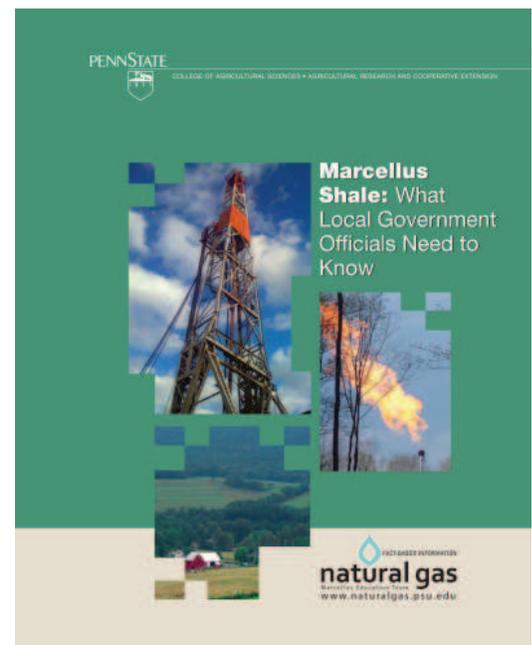
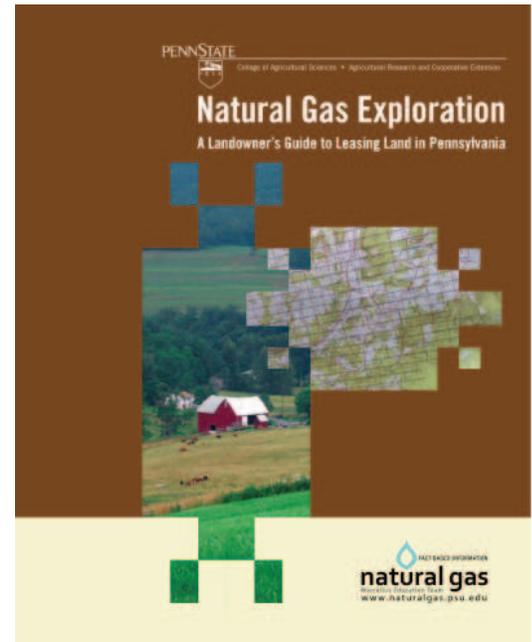
- A Checklist for Leasing
- A Landowner's Guide for Leasing in Pennsylvania
- How to get the highest price for your lease. Is anyone interested in your land?
- Information on Legal issues concerning Natural Gas Leases in Pennsylvania
- Should You Join a Landowner Group?
- There's "Gold" in Those Pennsylvania Hills
- What Every Farmer Should Know About Mining Law
- Business
- Drilling for Dollars by the Perryman Group
- Potential Economic Impacts of Marcellus Shale
- Sublette County, WY Socioeconomic Impact Study

#### *Economic*

- Drilling for Dollars by the Perryman Group
- Energy Boomtowns and Natural Gas: Implications for Marcellus Shale Local Governments and Rural Communities
- Potential Economic Impacts of Marcellus Shale in PA
- Sublette County (Wyoming) Socioeconomic Impact Study

#### *Environmental*

- Avoiding and Mitigating Soil Compaction Associated with Natural Gas Drilling
- Forest Landowners and Natural Gas Development
- Leasing Pointers for Forest Owners
- Shaping Proposed Changes to Pennsylvania's Total Dissolved Solids Standard
- Water Withdrawals for Development of Marcellus Shale Gas in Pennsylvania
- Infrastructure
- Posting and Bonding Information
- Questions Citizens and Local Leaders Should Be Asking



*Leasing*

- A Checklist for Reviewing Lease Forms
- Five Important Considerations in Leasing
- Information on Legal Issues Pertaining to Natural Gas Leases in PA
- Market Your Natural Gas Lease
- Natural Gas Exploration - A Landowner's Guide to Leasing Land in PA
- Natural Gas Exploration: A Landowners Guide to Financial Management
- NEW! Sample Lease
- Should you Join a Landowner Group?
- You've Leased Your Land, But Haven't Been Paid! Now What?

*Legal*

- Municipal Regulation of Natural Gas Drilling Operations
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision opens valves to zoning power over natural gas production

*Local-Government*

- Court Limits - But Did It Preclude? - Municipal Regulation of Natural Gas Drilling Operations by George Asimos
- Energy Boomtowns and Natural Gas: Implications for Marcellus Shale Local Governments and Rural Communities
- Local Leaders' Perceptions of Energy Development in the Barnett Shale
- Marcellus Shale Exploration and Development: Organizing a Community Task Force
- Marcellus Shale: What Local Government Officials Need to Know
- Natural Gas and Municipal Regulation in PA
- Natural Gas Development Checklist for Municipal Officials
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court Decision Opens Valves to Zoning Power Over Natural Gas Production
- Posting and Bonding Information
- Questions Citizens and Local Leaders Should Be Asking

## WIND ENERGY

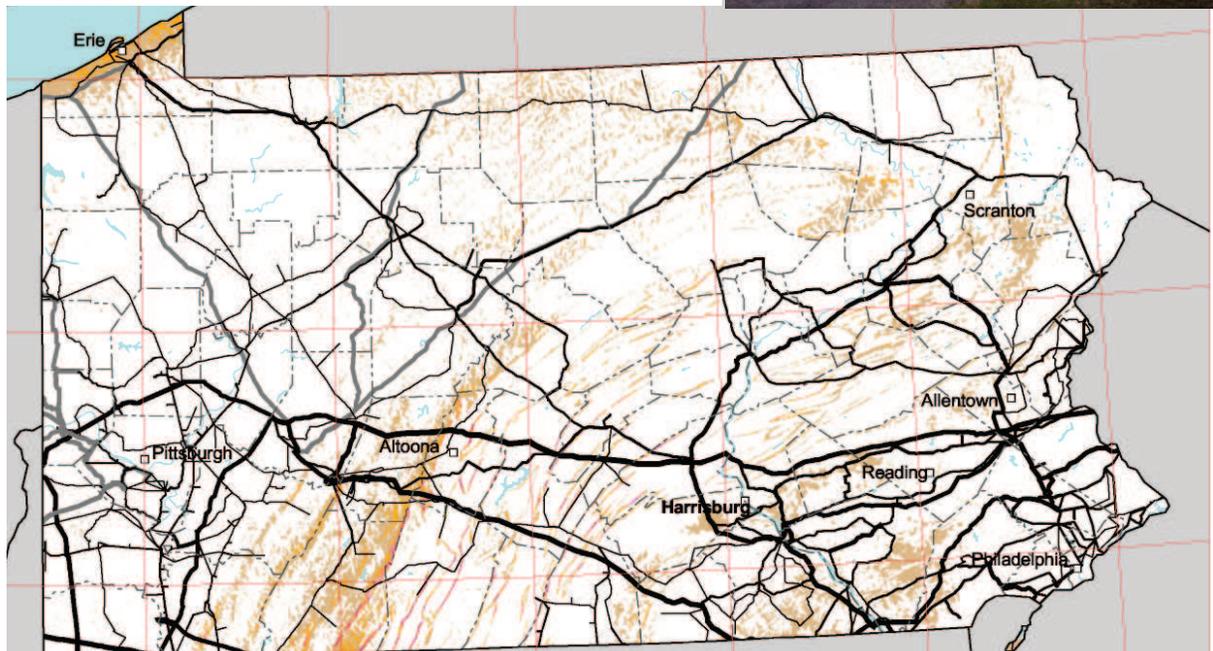
A review of industry wind energy maps indicates the potential for large scale wind farm development is limited in the North Central region as wind patterns generally provide minor to marginal wind speeds in the region. That said the maps do indicate small pockets of wind patterns that offer fair potential for wind energy. These areas are located in northcentral Potter County.

Both natural resource extraction and wind energy projects require infrastructure development. In the case of Marcellus shale, regional transmission pipelines will be required to transport the extracted gas to market. These new pipeline corridors may be able to accommodate trails as well. Both natural resource extraction and wind energy development require new access roads for the initial construction and continued maintenance of their facilities. Again, the potential exists, when the property owners are willing, to incorporate these roads into local and regional trail systems where they offer the ability to provide critical connections to maintain the integrity of trail corridors.

The GIS data assembled for this project is an important resource that can aid in identifying where natural gas extraction and the harnessing of wind energy can occur, in harmony with the natural system resources of the North Central region.

Wind Power Classification				
Wind Power Class	Resource Potential	Wind Power Density at 50 m W/m <sup>2</sup>	Wind Speed <sup>a</sup> at 50 m m/s	Wind Speed <sup>a</sup> at 50 m mph
1	Poor	0 - 200	0.0 - 5.6	0.0 - 12.5
2	Marginal	200 - 300	5.6 - 6.4	12.5 - 14.3
3	Fair	300 - 400	6.4 - 7.0	14.3 - 15.7
4	Good	400 - 500	7.0 - 7.5	15.7 - 16.8
5	Excellent	500 - 600	7.5 - 8.0	16.8 - 17.9
6	Outstanding	600 - 800	8.0 - 8.8	17.9 - 19.7
7	Superb	> 800	> 8.8	> 19.7

<sup>a</sup> Wind speeds are based on a Weibull k value of 2.0



***Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources***  
***ATV Trail Development Policy***

**Background**

The Department's mission and Constitutional responsibility require the agency to act as a trustee and responsible steward of the public lands entrusted to its care. The first and foremost duty is to assure the sustainability of both State Park lands and State Forest public lands.

The Department has documented the significant problems association with ATV use on State Forest lands. In most districts, the illegal riding activity is at or near the top of the forest management problems identified by District Foresters. The Department views the ATV-related problem to be one of the most significant threats to carrying out the agency's stewardship responsibilities. This is the reason the Department has moved aggressively to support new laws and regulations to strengthen the capacity of field staff to address this problem. Hiring new rangers and putting in place a moratorium on the development of new trails on State Forest lands have also been part of the broader effort to deal with ATV problems. The Department has made it clear that ATVs present a unique set of challenges, that in many instances, are incompatible with the core mission of the agency.

**Policy**

It shall be the policy of the Department to not significantly increase the current system of officially designated ATV trails on existing State Forest lands. This policy recognizes that there may be some opportunities for limited development of connectors to increase riding usage within the designated ATV trail networks. However, primary management focus on existing public lands will be convened with the repair and maintenance of already designated ATV trails and with enforcement to curtail illegal riding activity. This policy does not apply to future acquisition of new State Forest lands where such lands, or a portion of these lands, are purchased specifically with the purpose of providing additional ATV riding opportunities.

Further the Department recognizes its responsibility to use a portion of the funds generated by the ATV riders to help provide places for people to ride. While the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is not authorized to make full grants for trail development on State Park or State Forest lands, it shall be the policy of the Department to utilize existing grant funding to promote ATV trail development where appropriate on other public or private lands. A portion of the grant funding and technical assistance will be specifically targeted to encourage participation by counties or other regional organizations.

*June 5, 2003*

## OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

During the course of this project many individuals, and organizations expressed the need and desire to have more off-highway vehicle (OHV) riding opportunities in the North Central region, and to connect the OHV riding opportunities with one another. Additionally, they also expressed the desire to connect the OHV riding areas with main street communities in their vicinity where they can obtain the goods and services they need, and where the main street communities can capitalize on the potential economics generated by these visitors.

To accomplish this in the North Central region requires work on several fronts. First, the public agencies responsible for managing the Commonwealth's natural resources and wildlife habitat are concerned with the degradation of those resources. This is a valid concern as many trails and riding areas are located in sensitive environmental areas. This concern led to the PA DCNR to establish its ATV Trail Development Policy, in 2003, which limits ATV trail development on DCNR managed lands.

Further, some enthusiasts disregard policies and regulations regarding riding areas, creates problems for all enthusiasts. Additionally, resource agencies are concerned about liability, safety, monitoring and enforcement, etc.

Both the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry and Bureau of State Parks policies require resource management first, recreation considerations are later. The policies of these agencies are in place to protect sensitive environmental areas.

OHV riding areas can be developed with sustainable design principles to address the concerns of the resource managers. Therefore, we recommend a demonstration project be implemented.

Key components of a demonstration project should include:

- Completing a demonstration project to show how we can develop network of sustainable trails, but riding areas must not include state managed lands
- Connecting communities to enhance economic development, but cannot utilize PennDOT road network other than as provided for by law
- Analyzing natural resources, locating, and designing sustainable trails so they do not have a negative impact
- Educating enthusiasts to instill responsible and sustainable riding habits

If the project is feasible it will provide the opportunity to showcase how OHV trails can achieve the goals of both the enthusiasts and the resource managers, potentially creating a win-win situation.

## Summary of OHV Laws and Regulations Related to Liability Concerns

*Disclaimer: This is not legal guidance or the sole source of information related to the matters discussed herein. Before reaching an opinion one should consult with an attorney or municipal solicitor to further research and discuss potential implications associates with actions taken related to OHV opportunities in a municipality or by an agency, organization, or for profit entity.*

During the public meetings attendees questioned whether a municipality increases its liability by opening up township roads for OHV use. The following is a summary of various regulations contained in the Pennsylvania Code which address certain aspects of liability related to OHV use in Pennsylvania.

### Chapter 77 of the Vehicle Code

#### § 7721. Operation on streets and highways.

- (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it is unlawful to operate a snowmobile or an ATV on any street or highway which is not designated and posted as a snowmobile or an ATV road by the governmental agency having jurisdiction.
- (b) Emergency and bridge crossings.--A snowmobile or an ATV may be operated on highways and streets:
  - (1) During periods of emergency when so declared by a policy agency having jurisdiction.
  - (2) When necessary to cross a bridge or culvert.
- (c) Crossing street or highway.--A snowmobile or an ATV may make a direct crossing of a street or highway upon compliance with the following requirements:
  - (1) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.
  - (2) The snowmobile or ATV is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main-traveled way of the highway.
  - (3) The driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard.
  - (4) In crossing a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such highway with another public street or highway.

(July 11, 1985, P.L.220, No.56, eff. 60 days)

#### § 7722. Designation of snowmobile and ATV roads.

- (a) General rule.--The Department of Transportation on State-designated highways and local authorities on any highway, road or street within its jurisdiction may designate any highway, road or street within its jurisdiction as a snowmobile road, an ATV road, or both, and may, in its discretion, determine whether such road shall be closed to vehicular traffic or whether snowmobiles and ATV's may share this designated road with vehicular traffic.
- (b) Posting notices.--Adequate notices of such designation and determination shall be sufficiently and prominently displayed.

- (c) Liability.--There shall be no liability imposed on the Department of Transportation or any other State agency or any political subdivision of this Commonwealth as a result of designating any highway, road or street as a snowmobile road or an ATV road as provided in subsection (a).

(June 23, 1978, P.L.523, No.86, eff. imd.; July 11, 1985, P.L.220, No.56, eff. 60 days)

*§ 7729. Liability of Owner for Negligence.*

- (a) General rule.--Negligence in the use or operation of a snowmobile or an ATV is attributable to the owner. Every owner of a snowmobile or an ATV used or operated in this Commonwealth shall be liable and responsible for death or injury to person or damage to property resulting from negligence in the use or operation of such snowmobile or ATV by any person using or operating the snowmobile or ATV with the permission, express or implied, of such owner.
- (b) Exception.--The negligence of the operator shall not be attributed to the owner as to any claim or cause of action accruing to the operator or his legal representative for such injuries or death.

(July 11, 1985, P.L.220, No.56, eff. 60 days)

*§ 7730. Liability Insurance.*

- (a) Requirement.--A snowmobile or ATV for which registration is required under this chapter shall have liability insurance coverage for the snowmobile or ATV issued by an insurance carrier authorized to do business in this Commonwealth. This subsection does not apply to limited registrations.
- (b) Proof of insurance.--Proof of insurance as required by this section shall be produced and displayed by the owner or operator of such snowmobile or ATV upon the request of any magistrate or any person having authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter or to any person who has suffered or claims to have suffered either personal injury or property damage as a result of the operation of such snowmobile or ATV. It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution for a violation of this section that such proof was so produced within 72 hours of receiving notice of such violation, injury or damage or the claim of such injury or damage.
- (c) Owner's responsibility.--No owner of a snowmobile or ATV shall operate or permit the same to be operated without having in full force and effect liability insurance coverage required by this section. The operator of a snowmobile or ATV shall carry proof of insurance on his person or on the snowmobile or ATV when it is in operation.
- (d) Penalty.--A person who violates subsection (a) or (c) commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of \$300 and costs of prosecution and, in default of payment of the fine or costs, shall be imprisoned for not more than ten days.

(July 11, 1996, P.L.660, No.115, eff. 60 days; June 25, 2001, P.L.701, No.68, eff. 120 days)

**PA Code Chapter 51. Snowmobile and All-Terrain Vehicle Registration and Operation**

*§ 51.82. Barricades for Snowmobile or ATV Roads*

Streets and highways posted as exclusive snowmobile or ATV roads under section 7722 of the Vehicle Code (relating to designation of snowmobile and ATV roads) shall be barricaded in the following manner:

- (1) At the beginning of the section of the street or highway so posted and at each intersecting street and highway.
- (2) With Type III barricades which shall conform to the standards of PennDOT Publication 90, Handbook for Work Area Traffic Control, except as follows:
  - (i) The barricade rails shall be alternate red and white stripes.
  - (ii) The entire area of red and white shall be reflectorized with Class I reflective sheeting approved for use in this Commonwealth by the Department of Transportation.
- (3) A Department of Transportation approved Type B flasher shall be attached to the top rail of each barricade or a “ROAD CLOSED AHEAD” sign shall be placed in advance of the barricade.
- (4) Each barricade will be posted with an official “SNOWMOBILE ROAD CLOSED TO ALL OTHER VEHICLES” or “ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE ROAD CLOSED TO ALL OTHER VEHICLES” sign.
- (5) Signs shall conform to the requirements of 67 Pa. Code Chapter 211 (relating to official traffic control devices).

*§ 51.83. Posting Signs for Snowmobile or ATV Roads.*

- (a) A street or highway which has been posted as a snowmobile or ATV road allowing both snowmobiles or ATVs and other vehicular traffic under section 7722 of the Vehicle Code (relating to designation of snowmobile and ATV roads) shall be posted in the following manner:
  - (1) An official “SNOWMOBILE ROAD” or “ATV ROAD” sign shall be used and shall conform to 67 Pa. Code Chapter 211 (relating to official traffic control devices).
  - (2) The “SNOWMOBILE ROAD” or “ATV ROAD” sign shall be installed on the right side of the street or highway at the beginning of the posted snowmobile or ATV road and on the right side of the snowmobile or ATV road within 100 feet beyond each intersecting street or highway and at locations thereafter which will afford notice to all users of the road that it is a snowmobile or ATV road.
  - (3) The “END” plaque shall be used in conjunction with the “SNOWMOBILE ROAD” or “ATV ROAD” sign to indicate the end of a posted snowmobile or ATV road.
- (b) On each street and highway intersecting the posted snowmobile or ATV road, an official “SNOWMOBILE CROSSING” or “ATV CROSSING” sign may be installed on each approach of the intersecting street or highway. Signs shall conform to the requirements of 67 Pa. Code Chapter 211. EQUIPMENT

**PA Act 87 of July 15, 2004**

Amended 42 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 7102 Comparative Negligence to add:

*7102. Comparative Negligence*

B.3) Off-Road Vehicle Riding

- (1) Off-road vehicle riding area operators shall have no duty to protect riders from common, frequent, expected, and non-negligent risks inherent to the activity, including collisions with riders or objects.
  - (2) The doctrine of knowing voluntary assumption of risk shall apply to all actions to recover damages for negligence resulting in death or injury to person or property brought against any off-road vehicle riding area operator.
  - (3) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed in any way to abolish or modify a cause of action against a potential responsible party other than an off-road vehicle riding area operator.
- (D) Definitions.—As used in this section the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Defendant or Defendants." Includes impleaded defendants.

"Off-Road Vehicle." A motorized vehicle that is used off-road for sport or recreation. The term includes snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, and four-wheel drive vehicles.

"Off-Road Vehicle Riding Area." Any area or facility providing recreational activities for off-road vehicles.

"Off-Road Vehicle Riding Area Operator." A person or organization owning or having operational responsibility for any off-road vehicle riding area. The term includes:

- (1) Agencies and political subdivisions of this Commonwealth.
- (2) Authorities created by political subdivisions.
- (3) Private companies.

"Plaintiff." Includes counter claimants and cross-claimants.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect immediately.

Where a municipality is considering to adopt an ordinance to open up their local roads for OHV use, we recommend they request a legal opinion from their municipal solicitor as to whether the municipality will be exposed to a higher level of liability as a result of adopting such an ordinance.

***Pennsylvania Code, Title 68, Real and Personal Property, Chapter 11, Uses of Property, Recreation Use of Land and Water***

The liability of private land owners that provide easements for travel through their property may be afforded some protection through Pennsylvania's Recreational Use of Land and Water Statute.

The purpose of this act is to encourage owners of land to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting their liability toward persons entering thereon for such purposes.

*Definitions*

1. Land: land, roads, water, watercourses, private ways and buildings, structures and machinery or equipment when attached to the realty.

2. Owner: means the possessor of a fee interest, a tenant, lessee, occupant or person in control of the premises.
3. Recreational Purpose: includes, but is not limited to: hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking, pleasure driving, nature study, water skiing, water sports, cave exploration and viewing or enjoying historical, archaeological, scenic, or scientific sites.
4. Charge: means the admission price or fee asked in return for invitation or permission to enter or go upon the land.

#### *Overview of Act Provisions*

- The Act generally provides that an owner of land owes no duty to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for recreational purposes, or to give any warning of a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity on the premises.
- The Act protects landowners from liability when their land is used for recreational purposes by the public without charge, whether or not the landowner has invited or permitted the public to enter his land. *Friedman v. Grand Central Sanitation, Inc.*
- The only time a landowner's liability is not limited under the Act is for willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure, or activity or if the landowner charges for entry onto his land.
- The Act only provides liability protection to individuals who have a legal interest in the land.
- Absent a legal interest in a particular parcel of land, the act provides no protection

However, the definition of “owner” and court interpretations have allowed for a broad concept of landowner. An owner of land, under the Act, includes not only fee holders of land title, but lessees, occupants, or even persons who are simply in control of the land. This broad-sweeping definition helps to encourage greater recreational use of land because the liability risk for recreational groups such as leasing hunt clubs is significantly reduced.

Generally, the more restrictions the landowner places upon his land, the less likely he is to be protected by the Act. Pennsylvania's Recreation Use of Land Statute was amended by Act 11 of 2007. The amendment strengthens Commonwealth's Recreation Use of Land Statute by further providing protection from liability to landowners for acts or acts of omission by recreational users.

While the Recreational Use Statute provides certain protections from liability, nothing can prevent a suit from being filed against a land owner. Typically, homeowner's insurance usually provides coverage to the owner if someone is injured on the owner's property whether that person is permitted to be there or not. If someone is injured and files a claim against the property owner, the insurance company has the duty to defend the insured owner. Land owners conducting active farming or timbering generally have special liability insurance for those specific purposes.

The Recreation Use of Land Statute specifies the Act protects landowners from liability when the land is used for recreational purposes without charge. This is a very important factor and can void potential protections should it be determined that a fee is being charged for the use of the land. It is unclear whether land being leased to connect two properties being operated as an OHV riding area, could be covered under the Recreational Use Statute if a fee is being charged to conduct recreational activities on the area properties. One could argue the fee is specifically associated with the riding area, and not the connection between the areas. That said, it is a gray area and additional legal research should be conducted. It may be determined that this issue has not been tested in the court, and therefore, may remain a gray area until such time a case brings it to court.

Each of the regulations cited herein, afford some protection from liability claims, provided the corresponding criteria are met.

***North Central Pennsylvania Townships with Roads Designated for ATV Use***

The “ATV Trail Network Development” study completed for North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission for ATV Trails in the North Central region compiled the following inventory of Townships in the North Central Pennsylvania region with roads designated for ATV use.

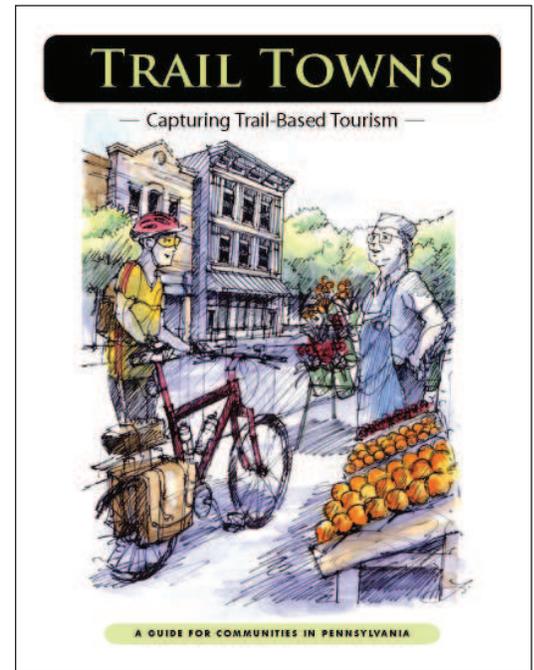
<b>Townships with Designated ATV Use Roads</b>			
<i>County</i>	<i>Township</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>No. of Designated Roads</i>
Clearfield	Huston	814-637-5771	3 short roads
Clearfield	Beccaria	814-687-4555	7 roads designated, unsigned
Elk	Benezette	814-787-8811	2 roads
Elk	Fox	814-885-8450	all, connecting
Elk	Horton	814-265-1622	2 roads
Elk	Jay	814-787-4646	all, connecting
Jefferson	Pine Creek	814-849-7428	all, connecting
Jefferson	Warsaw	814-328-2330	all, connecting
McKean	Otto	814-966-2330	2 roads
Potter	Allegheny	814-228-3444	all, connecting
Potter	Eulalia	814-274-8102	map pending
Potter	Harrison	814-334-5425	all, connecting
Potter	Hector	814-334-5668	all, connecting
Potter	Homer	814-274-7629	map pending
Potter	Keating	814-642-2291	11 roads, connecting
Potter	Roulette	814-544-7549	designated, unsigned, protested
Potter	Sweden	814-274-8829	all, connecting

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## TRAIL TOWN OPPORTUNITIES

It should be the goal of North Central region's recreation and transportation greenways to attract every trail user to the main street districts, where they can find the goods and services they need, while spending money in our towns. Therefore, we recommend the County Planning Departments educate and coordinate the planning and development of trail towns with applicable municipalities. Many North Central region municipalities are ideally situated to capitalize on a trail town concept, to maximize the economic benefits that can come with trail development.

In 2005, the Allegheny Trail Alliance published “Trail Towns – Capturing Trail Based Tourism, a Guide for Pennsylvania Communities”. The development of this guide was funded by the Regional Trail Alliance and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The guide provides step-by-step guidance in preparing a blueprint to provide goods and services required by trail users and promoting trail friendly towns.



### *Trail Towns*

- Entice trail users to get off the trail and into your town
- Welcome trail users to your town by making information about the community readily available at the trail
- Make a strong and safe connection between your town and the trail
- Educate local businesses on the economic benefits of meeting the needs of trail tourists
- Recruit new businesses or expand existing ones to fill gaps in the goods or services that trail users need
- Promote the “trail friendly” character of the town
- Work with neighboring communities to promote the entire trail corridor as a tourist designation

Trail Towns provide goods and services desired by trail users. These goods and services may include bicycle sales and service, casual restaurants, bed and breakfasts, ice cream shops, convenience stores, restrooms, outfitters, museums, art galleries, gift shops, clothing stores, camera stores, postal services, banking services, and guide services, to name a few. It is important that goods and services can be procured in trail-friendly environments, meaning that they encourage, not discourage, clientele that may have just come off the trail. Provide ample opportunities to secure their bicycles in bike-friendly bike racks. Provide a shoe brush outside your doorway to allow them to clean the mud off their shoes before entering your establishment. Provide a restroom with ample space and necessities, such as towels and wash clothes, to allow them to clean-up so they can feel comfortable while at your location. Finally, sell items that trail users need while out on the trail or as mementos of their visit.

Creating a Trail Town involves organizing, educating, promoting, and economic restructuring. It results in the preparation of a Trail Town Master Plan that pulls it all together by providing a gateway moment, creating a sense of place, developing a welcoming atmosphere, establishing the right mix of services, and promoting trail-oriented events.

This process should be lead by the local Chambers of Commerce and /or Merchants Associations, in cooperation with their respective municipalities. The development of Trail Towns will require new partnerships to be developed by stakeholders in each community. Developing a trail town master plan will require monthly meetings of the stakeholders and should involve quarterly meetings of trail town catalysts to prepare a coordinated approach.

As a first step, each community must understand their customers. What do trail users want when they come to town; what do they need; does someone in town have the ability to meet that need? How much money will they spend; what are their dining and shopping preferences; how many trips do they make during the course of the year; etc.?

Next, complete an inventory of the community and its businesses to determine if there is the ability to meet the needs of the trail users, or if the community needs to encourage the development of a business to meet an unmet need. With this information, a community can develop a trail town marketing guide, which can be provided to trail users. This guide should accomplish several tasks. First, it should provide the trail user with information regarding the trail, provide maps of the trail segments, and locate those who offer the goods and services that the trail users desire. The guide should focus on the qualities of your community that make it unique. It can provide an overview of the history of the community and a history of features located along and adjacent to the trail corridor. Further, advertising space can be sold in the guide to those who offer goods and services of interest to trail users.

Upon completing the self assessment recommended in the Trail Town guide, a community will be able to identify those businesses that cater to trail users. Then, a wayfinding signage program can be developed to assist trail users in finding the goods and services they need and to allow those in the community to find the trail and trail access opportunities. At this time, the community should also be aware of the goods and services that are desired but not being provided in the community. With this information, community development efforts can focus on attracting and expanding businesses that can fill those voids. For further details in preparing a detailed trail town master plan, refer to “Trail Towns – Capturing Trail Based Tourism, a Guide for Pennsylvania Communities,” published by the Allegheny Trail Alliance.

## LAND TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Taking a trail from concept through implementation can be a daunting task to a trail volunteer who may be responsible for its implementation. Acknowledging this, the following is a step-by-step process that helps define the tasks required to advance the implementation of a trail.

1. Identify the potential corridor and any alternate route.
2. Estimate the demand for the proposed trail. Will it connect local or regional population centers? Will the demographics of the area support use of the trail?
3. Conduct research at the County Courthouse to gain an understanding of who owns the property.
  - a. If it is held by a railroad, contact the railroad to determine if it is likely to be abandoned in the near future – if currently owned by the railroad, then there is potential to rail bank the corridor. Rail banking must be done in accordance with Pennsylvania Act 1990-188, the Rails to Trails Act.
  - b. If the property is owned by various individuals, it is likely the corridor has reverted back to private ownership. To confirm this, title research must be completed so a legal opinion on the ownership status can be rendered. If ownership is unclear, one must assume the property has reverted to the adjacent property owners until proven otherwise.
4. Document the benefits of the proposed trail, including: economic, transportation, recreation, health, wellness, establishing partnerships, and quality of life improvements.
5. Meet with local municipal officials to discuss your proposal, review the potential alignment, and discuss the benefits the proposed trail can provide to the area.
6. Meet with property owners and the general public to solicit input and determine whether property owners will support or oppose the proposed trail. For the initial meeting, it is important to listen and identify concerns, issues, and false understanding of what the trail will mean and how it may impact their property. With this information, you can tailor the concept for the trail to respond to the issues, concerns, and needs of property owners. Also, by understanding any false pretenses they may have, you can prepare to respond to demonstrate what a trail is and what it will do, and what a trail isn't and won't do at a second meeting with property owners. Ask for permission to go onto their property so you can get a better understanding of their concerns. Document this request in writing by having them complete a form at the public meeting.
7. Evaluate the corridor to determine the likelihood of physically establishing a trail corridor. Do not go onto any corridor without permission of the current property owner(s) as you will be trespassing. For portions of the trail you do not have permission to access, utilize aerial photography and other geographic information resources to complete a thorough desktop analysis. Meet with willing property owners, as required, to allay fears and discuss particular concerns and alignments.

8. Prepare a concept plan for the trail to identify the potential alignment, respond to land owner issues and concerns where possible, and develop an estimate of probable construction costs.
9. Develop management, operation, and security strategies for the continued operation of the trail. Many agencies will be leery of your proposal unless you can demonstrate that there is a long-term commitment and that long-term care can be provided for the proposed trail.
10. Complete a financial analysis to project the capital and operating costs for the proposed trail, and prepare a plan to show how those costs will be covered. Also, project the estimated economic impact of the proposed trail utilizing data collected from existing trails that are similar in nature to the trail being proposed.
11. Meet with the property owners and the general public a second time to present the proposed concept plan, and review the proposed recommendations for property acquisition; trail alignment; trail development; and trail management, operations, and security. Collect input of proposed recommendations, and determine where you have support and where you do not have support for the development of the proposed trail. Determine if logistical portions of the trail can be advanced to demonstrate the impacts of the trail and to build support for extensions to the trail.
12. Based on the input received, determine whether there is a feasible demonstration project that can be implemented.
13. Secure rights for public access to the demonstration segment of the proposed trail.
14. Complete final design, prepare construction documents, and obtain required permits for the construction of the proposed demonstration segment.

## WATER TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In her thesis completed in 2002, “Case Studies of Water Trail Impacts on Rural Communities”, Lindsey Johnson, MCRP provides the following recommendation for developing a successful water trail.

Rural communities interested in water trail development should be aware of impacts on local culture, the environment, and businesses. Negative impacts can be mitigated if the community is supportive of water trail development and there is dedicated management. The following recommendations should help project leaders plan, organize, and create facilities for water trails, while minimizing impacts on rural communities.

### *Planning and Organizational Needs*

1. A shared vision for a water trail is a goal that community members believe in and are willing to work towards. Dedicated local support for a goal-oriented project will sustain local water trail benefits. A dedicated group of volunteers is key to water trail success. A water trail must be advocated and maintained locally if the community will reap economic and social benefits.
2. Address landowner and citizen concerns through outreach to the community early in the project. A designated contact person should respond quickly and accurately to suggestions, concerns, and other comments. A pre-opening/pre-construction trail paddle will allow community members to see the proposed blueway for themselves.
3. Solidify funding, planning, and overall water trail management with clear leadership and goals. These factors should be considered before marketing a water trail.
4. Investigate local goals, norms, and land use patterns that are inconsistent with the water trail vision or threaten the integrity of a paddling experience. Tourism development in rural areas will have social implications including increased land values.
5. Explore partnership opportunities and apply for grants and offers of assistance. Local officials, government agencies, businesses, and the community should commit to water trail project goals. Successful water trails are the result of a cooperative effort between an active citizen group, a responsive public agency, and a supportive community, all of whom share a vision for the trail. Partner with lodging, eating and drinking, retail sales, and recreational services businesses.
6. Host events to advertise the trail, build support, and draw new volunteers. Noteworthy events such as water trail grand openings and annual paddling festivals provide excellent opportunity to make contact with the community, present accurate information, and generate positive media attention.

## **PA Water Trail Principles**

1. Partnerships
2. Stewardship
3. Volunteerism
4. Education
5. Conservation
6. Community Vitality
7. Diversity
8. Wellness & Wellbeing

*Infrastructure Needs*

7. Designate and clearly sign legal access points and public land at reasonable intervals to minimize landowner concerns.
8. Promote ‘leave no trace’ ethics or provide adequately maintained facilities to mitigate for environmental impacts from improperly disposed human waste, large groups, and littering.
9. Improve access to parking at river put-ins. Information and access are two big issues to improve trail system usage.
10. Manage a river experience. The quality of the natural environment and uncrowded river conditions are important to paddlers. These aspects of the river experience are vital for all management actions.
11. Explore the history of the waterway, and interpret these stories to paddlers in creative ways. Trail users often have an interest in the history and environment of the community and can help to support museums, nature centers, and other cultural assets. The interpretation of history and linkages with the past is a marketable concept.
12. Offer a variety of accessible activities. Paddlers are often interested in easy access to downtown, restaurants, campgrounds and bed and breakfasts, outdoor recreation experiences, and learning about local history and culture. Successful paddle destinations offer diverse activities with a wide variety of opportunities. Overnight trips are key.



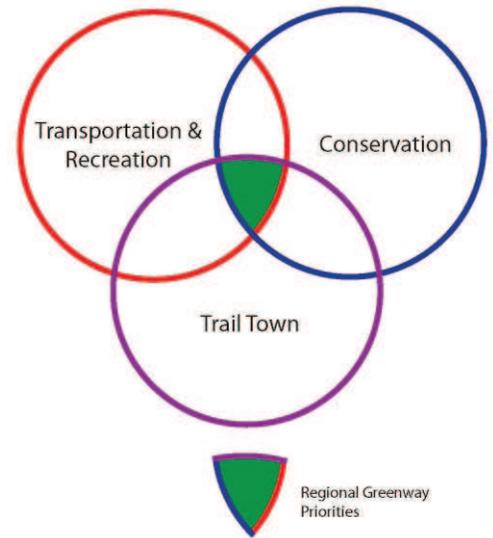
*Upper Allegheny River*

### **ESTABLISHING REGIONAL PRIORITIES**

Regional priorities were identified by the convergence of vital and/or exceptional priority natural systems, recreation and transportation corridors, and towns with each other at the regional scale.

The following corridors were identified as regional priorities based on convergence of the criteria above, upon their ability to meet specific needs identified in the greenway planning process, and to complement efforts of other regional initiatives such as the Pennsylvania Wilds, Lumber Heritage region, and the North Central Region Community and Economic Development Strategies (CEDS), and other efforts identified by the study committee.

Although these priorities have been established, they are simply guidelines. If opportunities arise in other corridors or associated with features of a lower priority, they should be pursued. Factors such as corridor or feature availability or the emergence of a local partner currently unknown, cannot be predicted but should be capitalized upon if and when they arise.



## KNOX KANE CORRIDOR

*Project:* Complete trail feasibility study to determine the corridor's potential as a multi-use trail and determine the viability of the corridor for all modes of trail use. Assess the corridor between Kane and Kinzua Bridge State Park to determine the feasibility of resurrecting and implementing the excursion train.

*Counties:* Clarion, Elk, Forest, and McKean

*Length:* 70 miles

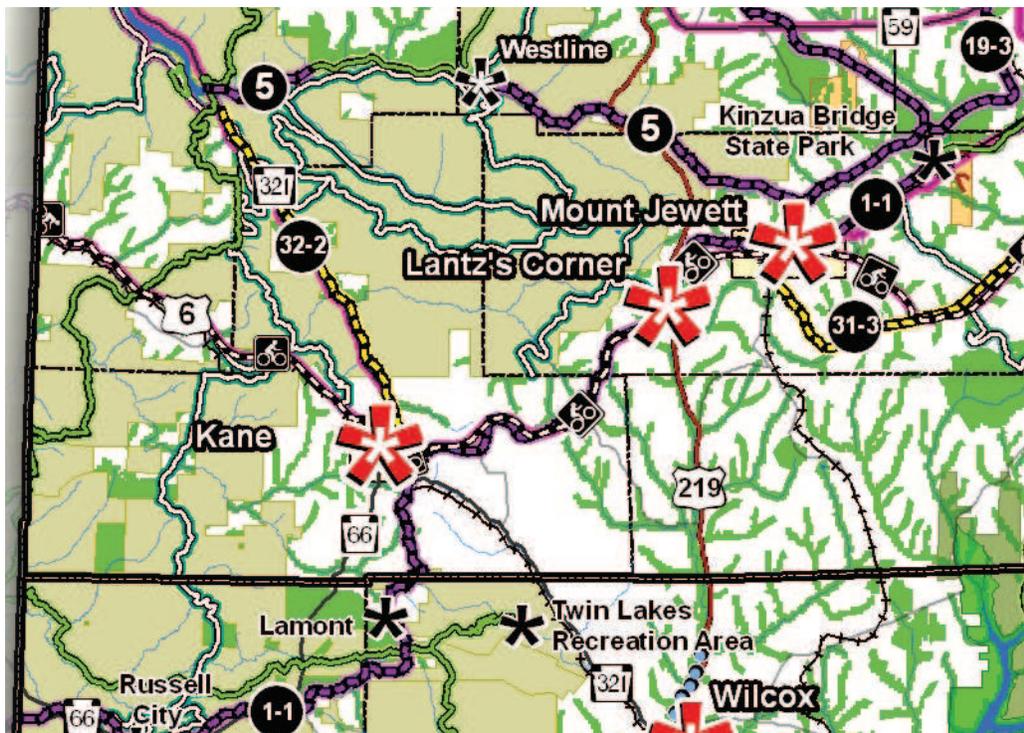
*Description:* The Kolvalchick Family Trust on behalf of the owner of the proposed Knox Kane rail corridor has filed for Railbanking and Notice of Interim Trail Use with the U.S Surface Transportation Board under provisions of the National Trails System Act. This proposed corridor provides the opportunity to develop a new 69.9 mile trail system connecting four counties (McKean, Elk, Forest, Clarion) within the Pennsylvania WILDS region. The study will identify the benefits of a trail system as well as potential impacts; provide a trail concept plan and recommendations for implementation, including construction cost projections; and determine financial feasibility, operation, maintenance and management options.

If determined to be feasible, the proposed Knox Kane Trail may provide access to other trails within the region. In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this corridor will provide, there are also Natural Systems Greenways associated with it. Within Elk and McKean Counties, the Tionesta, Kinzua Creek, and Cook Forest natural system greenway corridors are found along the Knox Kane corridor.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Kane, Lantz's Corners, and Mount Jewett in McKean County as well as Marienville in Forest County. In addition, hubs are recommended at Russell City and Lamont in Elk County. Also, the trail corridor passes through or near Knox, Shipperville, and Cook Forest State Park in Clarion County.

*Potential Partners:* North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Region Planning and Development Commission, McKean, Elk, Forest and Clarion Counties, Headwaters Charitable Trust, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Kinzua Bridge Foundation, Inc., Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Allegheny National Forest, Mt. Jewett Borough, Kane Borough, PA Route 6 Tourist Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Kovalchick, Inc.

*Steps to Implementation:* The North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission and the four counties which the corridor extends through (Clarion, Forest, Elk, & McKean), have successfully applied to and received a grant from the PA DCNR to conduct a feasibility study for this corridor. This feasibility study will determine if the corridor, or portions of the corridor are feasible for trail development, recommend the type of trail uses for the corridor, and recommend a phased plan for implementing the proposed segments of trail which may be deemed feasible. The feasibility process must be an inclusive process, and include adjacent property owners.



## WEST CREEK TRAIL CORRIDOR

*Project:* Implement the recommendations of the West Creek Trail Master Plan, currently being conducted, for improving the existing West Creek Trail corridor.

*Counties:* Cameron and Elk

*Length:* 10.3 miles in Elk County and 11.6 miles in Cameron County.

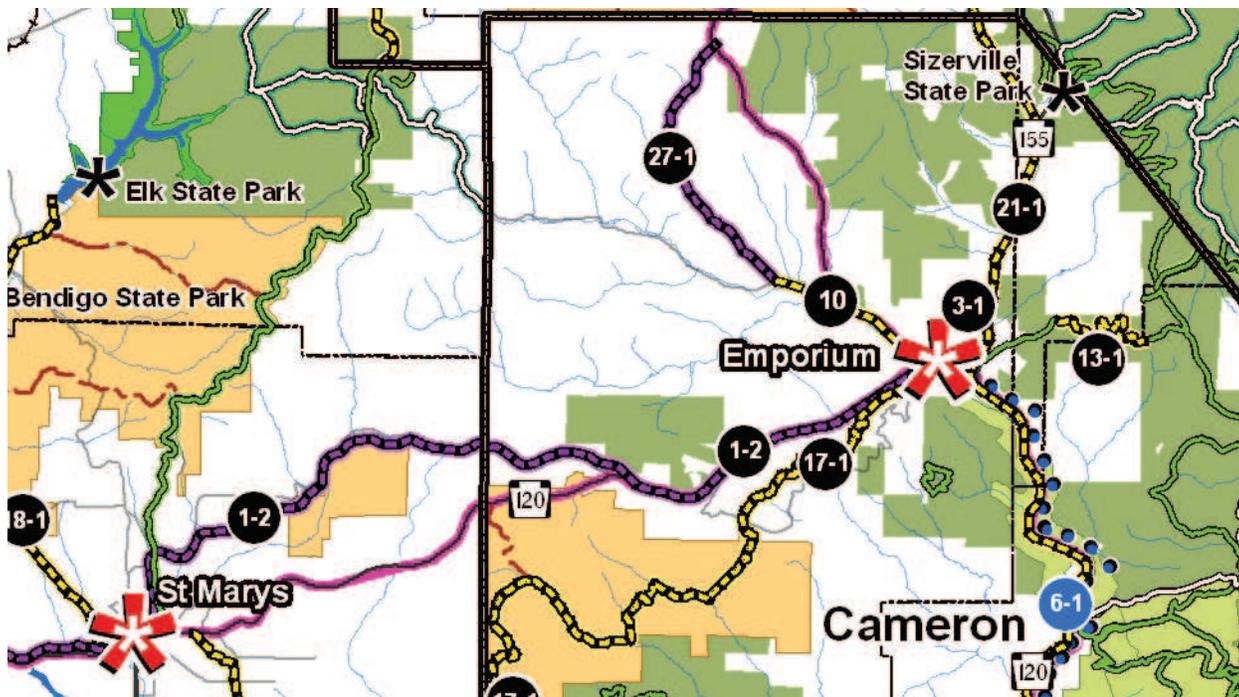
*Description:* The West Creek Trail follows the former ALY(PRR), Allegheny & Eastern Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad), corridor that runs from St. Marys, in Elk County, to Emporium, in Cameron County.

This corridor is owned by the West Creek Recreational Trail Association. Currently this trail is open for use. The corridor has been cleared of brush, but the surface is unimproved. Snowmobiles have been using it as a connection between Elk State Forest and Allegheny National Forest.

The next steps for the WCRTA are to apply for a DCNR grant to improve the trail surface, install fencing for safety in several areas, rehabilitate bridges in need of repair, install bollards at crossings to control access, and potentially install sound barriers in the Beechwood area to reduce noise.

The WCRTA also owns a former rail yard within Emporium that they have agreed to allow the borough to develop as a park provided they preserve a corridor through it for the trail.

*Potential Partners:* West Creek Trail Association, PA DCNR, Cameron County, Emporium Borough, Elk County, City of St. Marys, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association.



## SMETHPORT TO DUKE CENTER

*Project:* Complete feasibility study for proposed motorized shared use trail corridor from Smethport Borough to Duke Center with connection to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails.

*County:* McKean

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* This proposed motorized trail demonstration project will connect Smethport, Gilford, Rew, and Duke Center to the Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails ATV Park. The trail is proposed to follow the former Bradford, Bordell, & Kinzua rail corridor. We recommend snowmobile use of this corridor also be considered.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail will provide, it is also located along the proposed Marvin Creek natural systems greenway corridor west of Smethport.

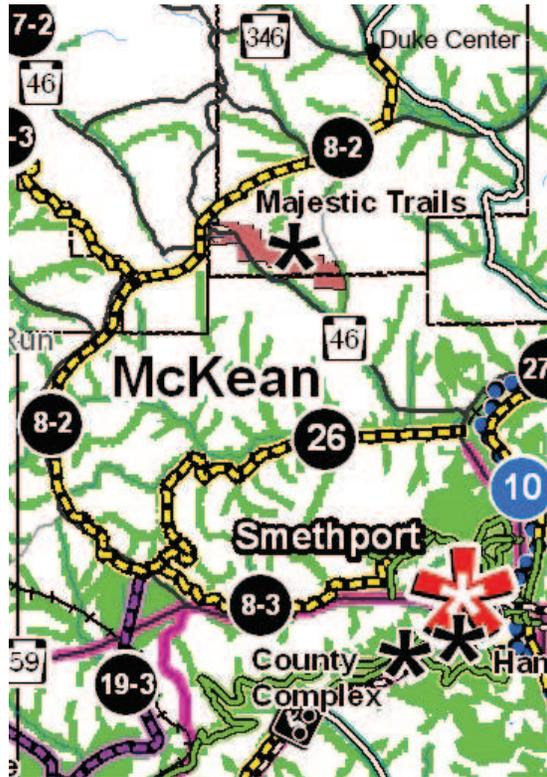
Also associated with this corridor are the proposed trail town of Smethport.

*Potential Partners:* McKean County Planning Commission, McKean County Economic Development Department, the Borough of Smethport, Smethport Chamber of Commerce, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, Inc., Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Seneca Resources, Inc.

*Steps to Implementation:* During the public participation process many attendees expressed interest in developing regional ATV trail connections. This desire was expressed both by members of the ATV community as well as those communities with main streets who see the proposed trails as an economic development opportunity. Smethport Borough is actively pursuing the development and expansion of the Potato Creek trail network. Further, the borough sees the opportunity to capitalize on the economic development opportunities associated with these trails. The owners of Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails recognize their visitors desire to be able to ride to Smethport to access goods and services. Several large parcels of land lie between Smethport Borough and the Majestic properties.

If deemed feasible, this trail corridor must be designed and developed in accordance with sustainable trail design principles and best practices. Successful implementation of this project will serve as a demonstration of how a motorized use trail can be sustainably developed to conserve the resources while meeting the motorized recreation needs of the region's residents. This potentially could open up other opportunities for motorized corridors within the North Central region.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine if public access could be obtained through these properties to provide a motorized trail corridor from Smethport, to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, and then onto Duke Center. Seneca Resources, one of the large land owners, was interviewed during this planning process. Their land manager indicated that trail easements through their properties would be considered on a case by case basis. The feasibility process must be an inclusive process, and include land owners, adjacent property owners, Borough of Smethport, Potato Creek Trail Association, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, as well as, other stakeholders that have an interest in this process.



## REDBANK CREEK AND BROOKVILLE TO BROCKWAY CORRIDORS

*Projects:* Prepare master plan & phasing plan and implement recommendations for land and water trail improvements in the Redbank Creek Trail. Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunity for water quality and stream bank stabilization improvement projects along Redbank Creek and North Fork Redbank Creek.

*Counties:* Clarion and Jefferson

*Length:* 58.7 miles

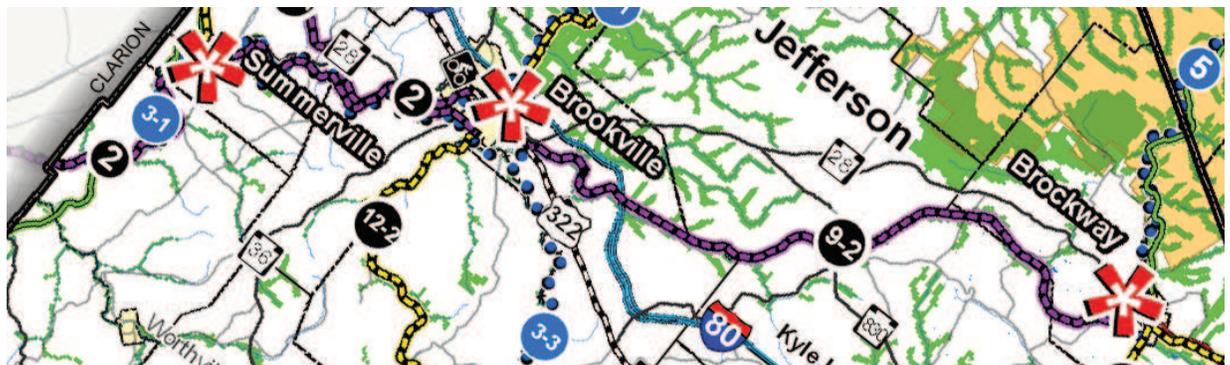
*Description:* This proposed non-motorized shared use trail can connect to the existing Allegheny River Trail (Erie to Pittsburgh Trail) to the west and the existing Clarion / Little Toby Rail to Trail to the east. From Brockway, a proposed extension to the Little Toby Trail has potential to extend the trail into Falls Creek and eventually on to DuBois where a proposed trail could extend the corridor through the Anderson Creek Gorge to Curwensville, connecting with the existing Clearfield-Grampian Rail Trail. The proposed Redbank Creek Trail would also connect with the existing Baker Hiking Trail near Summerville.

We also recommend the proposed water trail along Redbank Creek from Brookville down to the confluence with the Allegheny River, south of East Brady, within this corridor. The proposed water trail would also connect to the proposed water trails along North Fork Redbank Creek, Sandy Lick Creek, and Little Toby Creek.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also located along several Natural systems greenway corridors in Jefferson County including; Redbank Creek, North Fork Redbank Creek, Mill Creek, and Little Toby Creek.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Brockway, Brookville, and Summerville in Jefferson County as well as New Bethlehem in Clarion County.

*Potential Partners:* Brookville, Brockway, Summerville, New Bethlehem (Clarion County) Redbank Valley Trails Association, Redbank Creek Watershed Association, North Fork Conservancy, North Fork Watershed Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Regional Planning and Development Commission, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Headwaters Charitable Trust.



## SINNEMAHONING CREEKS AND BRANCHES / ELK COUNTRY CORRIDOR

*Projects:* Complete feasibility studies for the proposed and non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor, proposed hiking trail connections in Sinnemahoning, and proposed water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek and branches.

*Counties:* Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, and Potter

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* The proposed Elk Country Trail follows the former corridor of the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad which connects DuBois in Clearfield County with Driftwood in Cameron County. If completed the Elk Country Trail will provide connections to the Bucktail Path, Quehanna, and Donut Hole Trails.

Explore the feasibility of an interconnected network of water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine how to connect the land based trails to Sinnemahoning Borough and to one another. During the public input process the following route was suggested for further study:

- The Old Sinnemahoning Trail connects the Quehanna Trail to Lower Jerry Run Rd. This intersects Wykoff Run Road and then cross the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning on a motorized bridge for Wykoff Run Rd. This bridge needs to include pedestrian accommodations the next time it is rehabilitated or replaced by PennDOT. Soon after crossing the river, Wykoff Road intersects SR120.
- Turn to the left and it is a short walk up SR120 to Grove Street. Up Grove Street is the southern terminus of the Bucktail Path. (Also a stop on the Elk Scenic Drive)
- Turn to the right and it is a short walk along SR120 to Jericho. A side street in Jericho takes you to the Ellicott Trail which is the western terminus of the Donut Hole Trail).

We recommend alternatives be explored to route the last two proposed on-road sections off road by obtaining easements through private property (this may require a bridge over the First Fork).

By making these connections hikers will be able to connect with every major State Forest Hiking Trail in the PA Wilds and beyond. This would make for the largest regional trail connection proposed to date. These corridors also connect with the proposed Norfolk Southern, Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park, and Elk Country rail trail corridors recommended herein.

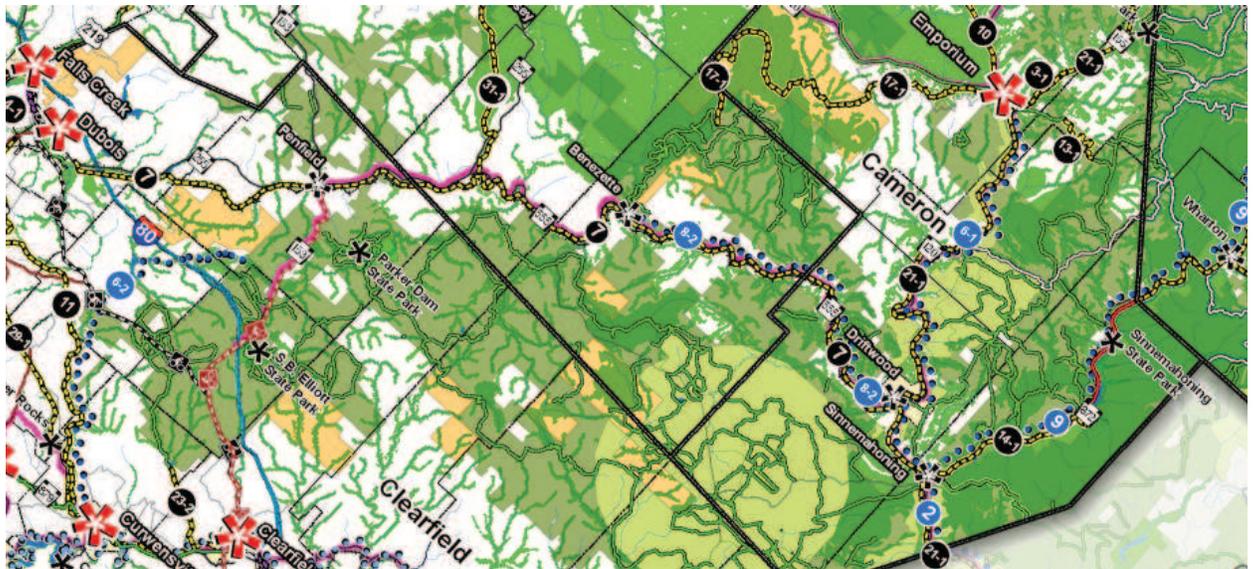
Other regional assets in this corridor include Sinnemahoning State Park, the Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds Elk Viewing Center, Elk State Forest and Natural Areas as well as the Bucktail Trail and Elk scenic drives.

## The North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also situated adjacent to several Natural Systems Greenways including; Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

The City of DuBois and Emporium are proposed as a trail towns within this corridor while Penfield, Benzette, Driftwood, and Sinnemahoning are proposed as major hubs and Sinnemahoning State Park is proposed as a hub.

*Potential Partners:* Driftwood, Benzette, Penfield, DuBois, DuBois Revitalization Group, Cameron County, Cameron County Conservation District, Elk County, Elk County Conservation District, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Elk State Forest, Sinnemahoning State Park, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.



## INDIANA, SOUTHERN CLEARFIELD, CAMBRIA, AND BLAIR COUNTIES CORRIDOR

*Project:* Conduct feasibility study to determine potential for the proposed non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor.

*Counties:* Cambria, Clearfield, Indiana, and Jefferson

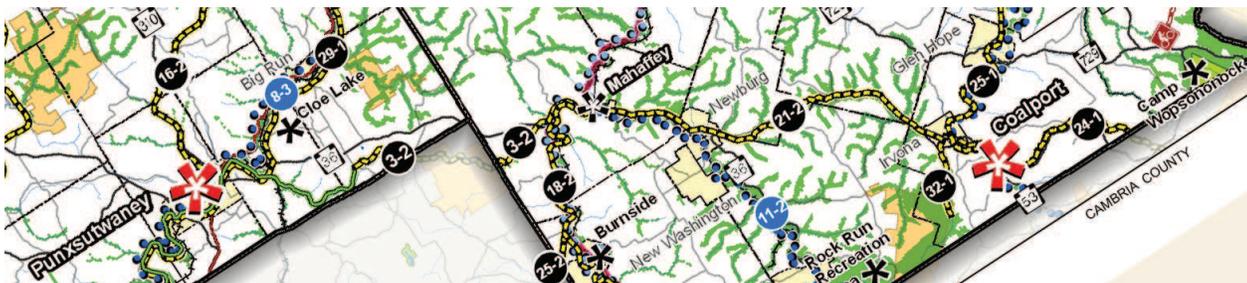
*Length:* 43.4 miles

*Description:* This proposed corridor extends from the eastern terminus of the Mahoning Shadow Trail outside of Punxsutawney in Jefferson County to the western terminus of the existing Bellwood (Bells Gap Trail) at Lloydsville in Cambria County and then may continue Altoona via along the proposed Logan Valley Trolley Trail. Additionally proposed within this corridor are the Chest Creek and Clearfield Creek water trails. These trails also connect to the existing Susquehanna River – West Branch Water Trail.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also intersects several Natural Systems Greenways including; Muddy Run, Little Clearfield Creek, and Moshannon Creek.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Punxsutawney in Jefferson County and Coalport in Clearfield County as well as Mahaffey as a major hub.

*Potential Partners:* Punxsutawney, Mahaffey, Coalport, Cherry Tree (Indiana County), Altoona (Blair County) Jefferson County, Clearfield County, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority.



## WEST BRANCH SUSQUEHANNA CORRIDOR

*Project:* Evaluate and implement trail town recommendations at the convergence of land based trails in communities along the West Branch Susquehanna River with the West Branch Susquehanna River Water Trail.

*Counties:* Clearfield, Clinton, and Indiana

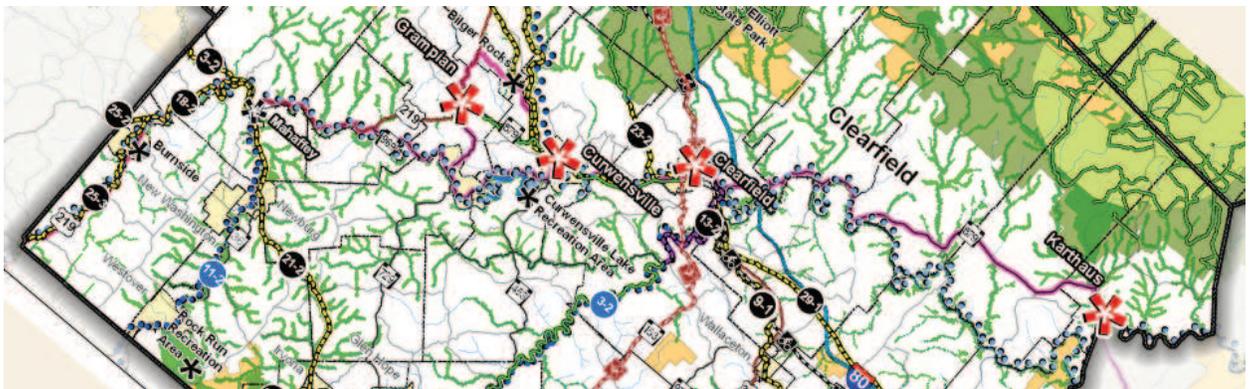
*Length:* 228 miles (96 miles within Clearfield County)

*Description:* The existing Susquehanna River – West Branch water trail flows from Cherry Tree in Indiana County to the confluence with the Susquehanna River at Sunbury. This water trail provides connections to the existing Clearfield- Grampian Rail Trail and several proposed trails throughout Clearfield County. Additionally, the proposed West Branch Susquehanna River Scenic Byway and Scenic Byway Loop (with connections to Bilgers Rocks) are found within this corridor.

The entire length of the West Branch Susquehanna River is proposed as a Natural System Greenway corridor and is an asset to Clearfield County’s natural environment.

Proposed trail towns along the water trail corridor include Cherry Tree, Curwensville, Clearfield, and Karthaus. Additionally, Burnside and Curwensville Lake are noted as hubs and Mahaffey as a major hub along the route.

*Potential Partners:* Karthaus Borough, Clearfield, Curwensville, Clearfield Chamber of Commerce, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania’s Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.



## TRIPLE DIVIDE / GENESEE RIVER WILDS CORRIDOR

*Projects:* Evaluate feasibility of the proposed Pine Creek Trail Extension from Galeton to New Field Junction and North Border Trail from New Field Junction to New York State Line at Genesee, Pennsylvania. Develop recommendations to implement trail towns philosophy in Galeton. Acquire conservation easement / property at Eastern Triple Divide. Market, promote, and develop interpretive resources for the Eastern Triple Divide. The Triple Divide, near Gold, Pennsylvania, is the intersection of North American watersheds of the Atlantic Seaboard, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Gulf of Saint Lawrence at the respective Pennsylvania headwaters of Pine Creek (West Branch Susquehanna River), the Allegheny River, and the Genesee River.

*Potential Partners:* Potter County Planning Department, Genesee River Wilds Project, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Potter County, Tioga County, United States Geological Survey, Susquehanna River Partnership, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Topography and Geology, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Headwater Natural Resource Conservation and Development Council, Potter County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Northcentral Conservancy.

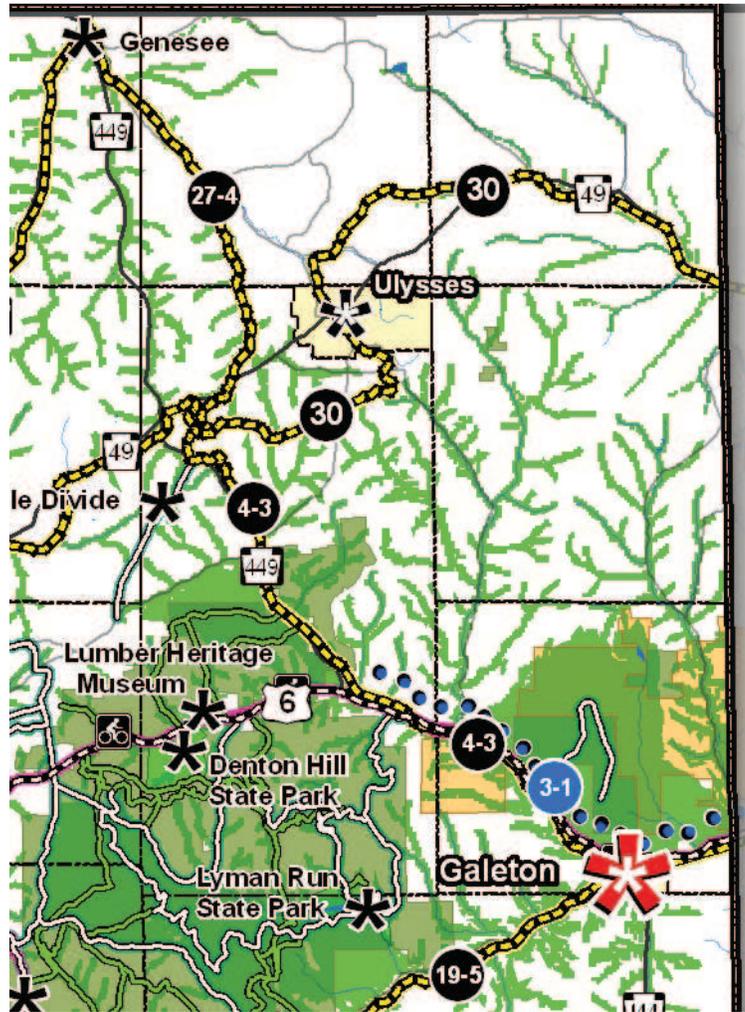
*Counties:* Potter and Tioga

*Length:* 39.8 miles

*Description:* This corridor extends from the existing Pine Creek Trail in Tioga County to the New York State line at Genesee. Proposed trails include the North Border Trail and Pine Creek Trail Extension. Also located in this corridor is the proposed Pine Creek water trail. When completed, this corridor will provide connections to the Susquehannock State Forest Trail System, Triple Divide US Route 6 Scenic Byway, the Lumber Heritage Museum, and five State Parks.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it also intersects several Natural Systems Greenways including; - Genesee, Ninemile Run, and Pine Creek.

Galeton Borough is proposed as a trail town along this corridor and Genesee, the Triple Divide, Lumber Heritage Museum and several state parks are proposed as hubs.



**POTENTIAL COUNTY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS**

As a result of the inventory, analysis, and public participation that we completed for this plan, there are 155 trails, 85 potential recreation and transportation corridors, 132 proposed natural system corridors, 81 proposed trail towns, major hubs, & hubs, and 209 potential implementation partners recommended for consideration.

<b>Counties</b>	<b>Existing Trails</b>	<b>Proposed Rec. &amp; Trans. Greenway Corridors</b>	<b>Proposed Natural System Greenway Corridors</b>	<b>Proposed Trail Towns, Major Hubs, &amp; Hubs</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>
Cameron County	36	9	21	5	14
Clearfield County	37	18	22	16	53
Elk County	22	11	24	12	20
Jefferson County	10	11	13	15	26
McKean County	30	25	24	15	29
Potter County	20	11	28	18	33
Potential Regional Implementation Partners					34
<b>Totals</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>209</b>

As was done at the regional level, the greenway features were also ranked and prioritized at the county level. From the priorities, potential demonstration projects were identified.

Potential demonstration projects are those projects which may be more readily achievable with fewer challenges to overcome to implement. These demonstration projects are associated with one or more of the regional priorities established above. For purposes of implementation they have been categorized by County. Further, potential partners have been identified. These potential partners are agencies and organizations who may be able to assist in some capacity with the implementation of the proposed project. The list of potential partners identified under each project is not exclusive as additional partners may be identified in the future.

Although these priorities have been established, they are simply guidelines. If opportunities arise in other corridors or associated with features of a lower priority, they should be pursued. Factors such as corridor or feature availability or the emergence of a local partner currently unknown, cannot be predicted but should be capitalized upon if and when they arise.

## **CAMERON COUNTY GREENWAYS RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

*Cameron County Courthouse*



*Emporium, Cameron County*



*Sinnemahoning State Park*



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## CAMERON COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for Cameron County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## CAMERON COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within Cameron County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 35 existing trail corridors
- 2 designated scenic byways
- 9 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 4 proposed water trail opportunities
- 1 proposed trail town
- 1 proposed scenic byway
- 1 proposed scenic drive
- 2 major hubs
- 2 hubs

Cameron County's Existing Trail Corridors

Cameron County's Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses							
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle
Sizerville Nature Trail	X				X			
Bucktail Path	X							
Wiley Trail	X					X		
Mowry Trail	X							
Chicago Springs Trail	X							
Hacket Trail	X							
Sand Springs Trail	X							
Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail			X					
Square Timber Trail	X							
Joe King Trail	X							
Phins Trail	X							
Ridge Trail	X							
Big Run Trail	X							
Lick Island Trail	X							
Game Refuge Trail	X							
Big Flat Trail	X							
Pepper Hill Trail	X							
Fred Woods Trail	X							
Donut Hole Trail	X							
Old Sinnemahoning Trail	X							
Quehanna Trail	X							
Foley Trail	X							
Sevinsky Trail	X							
Sanders Trail	X	X						
Jugs Springs Trail	X							
Gore Trails	X	X						
Red Run Trail	X							
Old Hoover Trail	X							
Meeker Trail	X							
Big Springs Draft Trail	X		X					
Sinnemahoning State Park Trail	X				X			
Elk State Forest Snowmobile Trails	X	X				X		
Sinnemahoning State Forest Snowmobile Trails	X	X				X		
State Game Lands No. 14 Designated Use Trails	X		X					
State Game Lands No. 34 Designated Use Trails	X		X					

**Cameron County's Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors**

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

Each of these potential trail corridors are described in detail in Chapter 2.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

Cameron County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)										Total	Regional Ranking	Cameron County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems														
West Creek Trail	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	55	1-1	1-1	Exceptional	X	X		X			X		
Emporium Borough Trails	3	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	10	51	3	2	Exceptional	X	X							
Emporium to Fairgrounds Trail	3	5	5	2	5	2	3	1	2	10	38	10	3	Significant	X	X		X					
Wiley Trail to Bucktail Path	3	3	4	2	4	2	3	1	2	10	34	13	4		X	X		X					
Elk Country Trail	3	3	1	3	1	4	4	2	3	10	34	13	5		X	X		X					
Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park Trail	3	1	1	3	1	3	4	2	4	10	32	14	6		X	X		X					
Emporium to Thunder Mountain Trail	3	1	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	10	29	14	7		X								
Six Mile Trail	5	1	1	4	0	1	3	2	2	0	19	27	8	High	X	X				X	X	X	
Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor Trail	5	1	0	3	3	4	4	2	3	0	25	25	9		X	X							

**Cameron County's Potential Water Trails**

<b>Cameron County Potential Water Trails</b>	<b>Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail</b>	<b>Trail Demand</b>	<b>Connectivity</b>	<b>Economic Development Potential</b>	<b>Associated with Potential Trail Town</b>	<b>No. Counties</b>	<b>Associated with Core Systems</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Regional Ranking</b>	<b>Cameron County Ranking</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Sinnemahoning Creek	5	3	5	3	0	1	10	27	2	1	<b>Exceptional</b>
Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch	5	3	1	1	1	1	10	22	5	2	
Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch	5	1	1	1	0	2	10	20	7	3	<b>Significant</b>
Sinnemahoning Creek, First Fork	0	1	3	3	0	2	10	19	8	4	

CAMERON COUNTY'S TRAIL TOWNS, MAJOR HUBS, AND HUBS

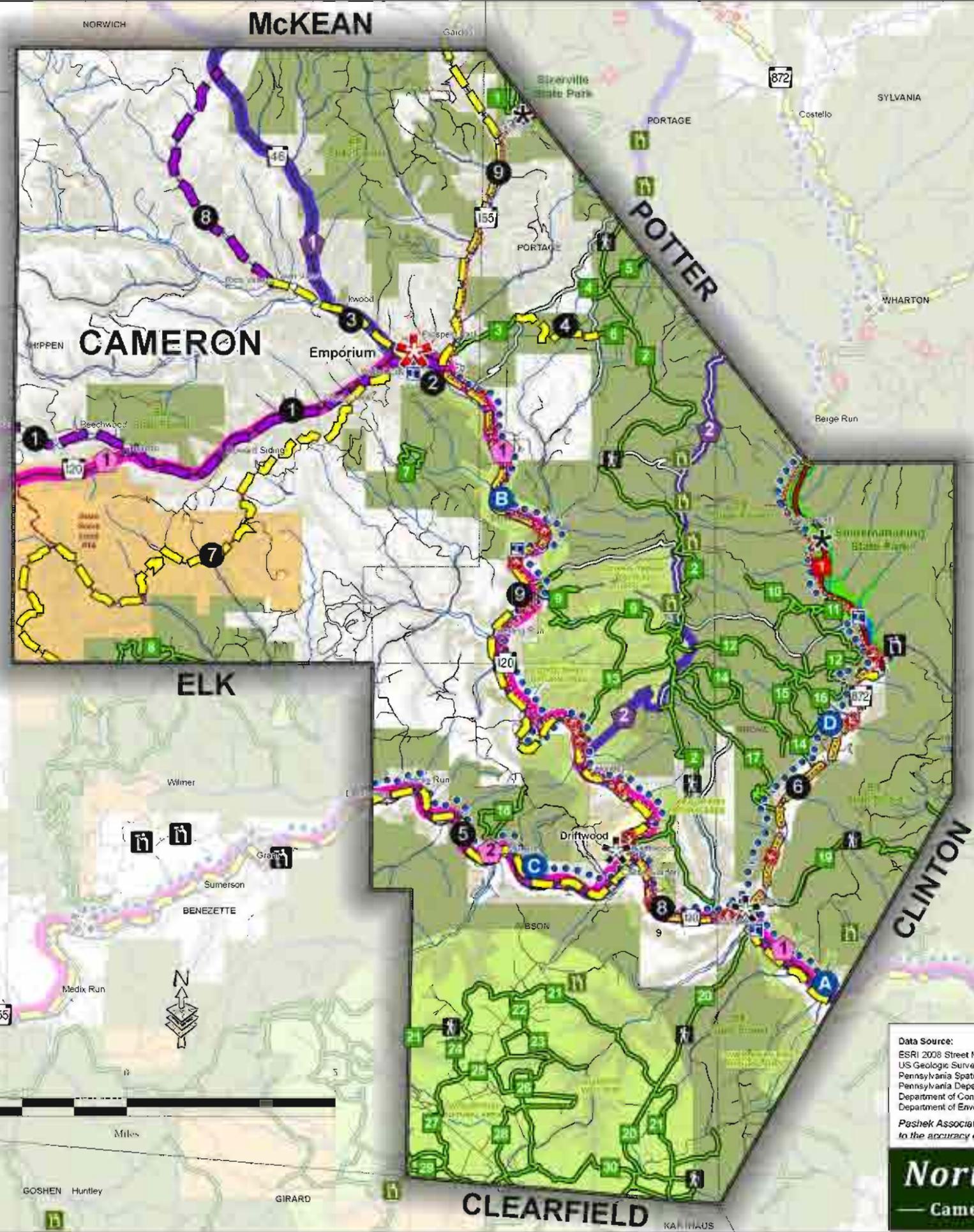
- Emporium ..... Trail Town
- Driftwood ..... Major Hub
- Sinnemahoning ..... Major Hub
- Sizerville State Park ..... Hub
- Sinnemahoning State Park .... Hub

# Location Map



# Legend

- Base Map Features**
    - County Boundary
    - Municipal Boundary
    - Borough
    - Urban Areas
  - Hydrology**
    - Lake / Reservoir
    - Named Streams
    - Tributary Streams
  - Transportation**
    - PA State Route
    - US Highway
    - Local Road
    - Active Railroad
  - DCNR Managed Land**
    - State Park
    - Pennsylvania State Forest
    - State Game Land
    - State Forest Wild & Natural Areas
  - Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
    - Hiking
    - Existing Trail
    - Existing State Game Land Trail
    - Existing Snowmobile Route
    - Proposed
    - Under Construction
    - Conceptual
    - Proposed Lumber Heritage Park Bicycle Tour Route
    - Water Trail
    - PAFBC Access Points
    - Existing Scenic Byway
    - Proposed Scenic Byway
    - Designated Scenic Vista
    - Potential Scenic Vista
- Proposed On-Road Bike Routes along PA State Routes 120, 555, & 872*



- ### Trails
- 1 Proposed & Conceptual Trails**
    1. West Creek Trail
    2. Emporium Borough Trails
    3. Emporium to Fairgrounds Trail
    4. Wiley Trail to Bucktail Path
    5. Elk Country Trail
    6. Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning S.P. Trail
    7. Emporium to Thunder Mountain (Equestrian)
    8. Six Mile Trail (Motorized)
    9. Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor
  - 1 Existing Trails**
    1. Sizerville Nature Trail
    2. Bucktail Path
    3. Wiley Trail
    4. Mowray Trail
    5. Chicago Springs Trail
    6. Hackett Trail
    7. Sand Springs Trail
    8. Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail
    9. Square Timber Trail
    10. Joe King Trail
    11. Phins Trail
    12. Ridge Trail
    13. Big Run Trail
    14. Lick Island Trail
    15. Game Refuge Trail
    16. Big Flat Trail
    17. Pepper Hill Trail
    18. Fred Woods Trail
    19. Donut Hole Trail
    20. Old Sinnemahoning Trail
    21. Cushman Trail
    22. Foley Trail
    23. Sevinsky Trail
    24. Sanders Trail
    25. Jugs Springs Trail
    26. Gore Trails
    27. Red Run Trail
    28. Old Hoover Trail
    29. Meeker Trail
    30. Big Springs Draft Trail
  - 1 Trails Under Construction**
    - 1. Sinnemahoning State Park Trail
  - 1 Designated Scenic Byways**
    1. Bucktail Drive
    2. Elk Scenic Drive
  - 1 Proposed Scenic Byways**
    1. SR 46 Emporium to Smethport
    2. Ridge Road Off-Road Scenic Byway
  - A Proposed Water Trails**
    - A. Sinnemahoning Creek
    - B. Driftwood Branch
    - C. Bennetts Branch
    - D. First Fork Sinnemahoning
- ### Points of Interest
- 1. Proposed Trail Town
  - 2. Major Hub
  - 3. Hub



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
 a pennsylvania corporation

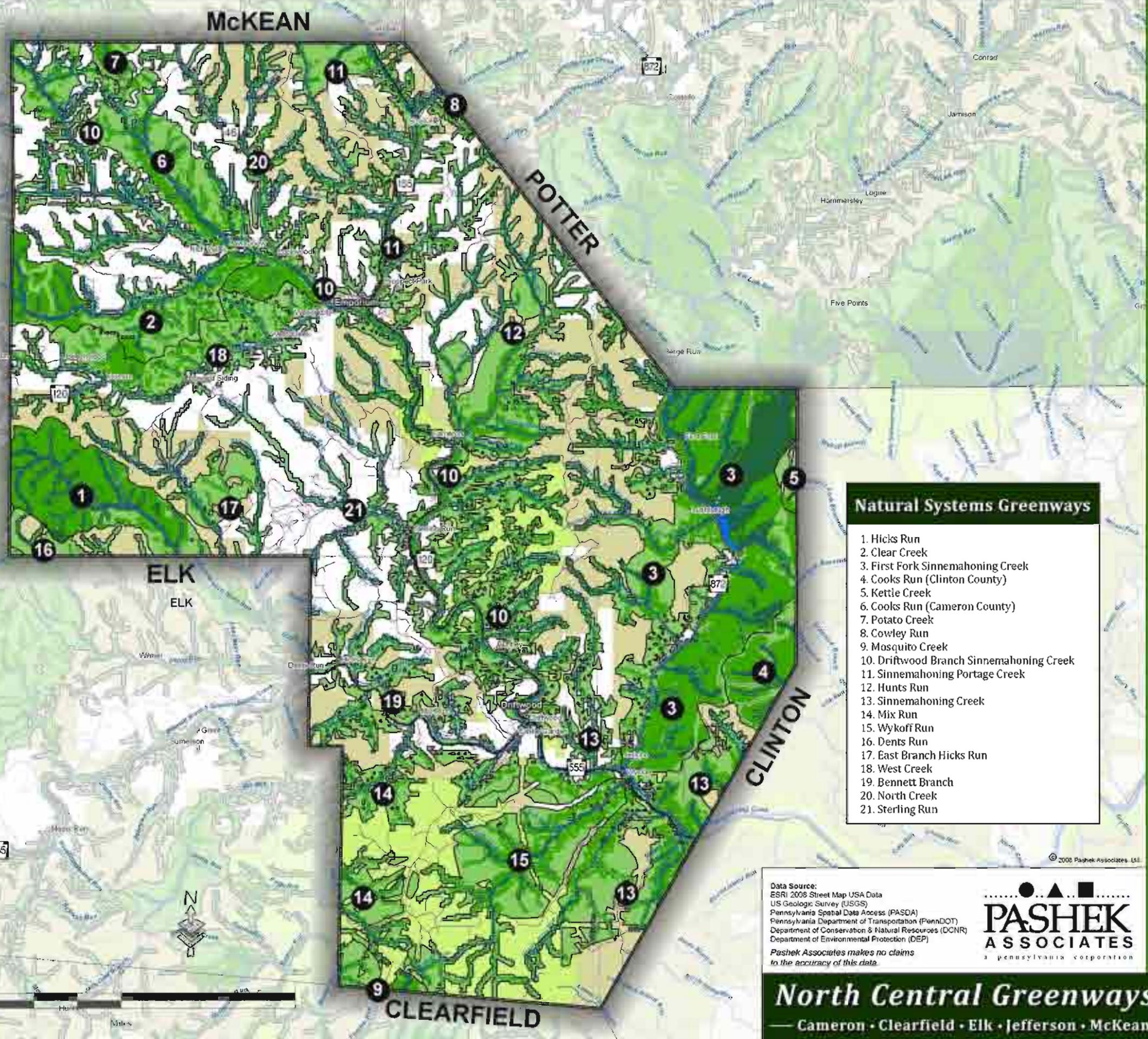
# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

Cameron County  
Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

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# Location Map



### Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad

**Managed (Conserved) Lands**

- Managed (Conserved) Lands
- Managed (Conserved) Wild and Natural Areas

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- 16 to 27
- 28 to 36
- 37 to 47

- ### Natural Systems Greenways
- Hicks Run
  - Clear Creek
  - First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek
  - Cooks Run (Clinton County)
  - Kettle Creek
  - Cooks Run (Cameron County)
  - Potato Creek
  - Cowley Run
  - Mosquito Creek
  - Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek
  - Sinnemahoning Portage Creek
  - Hunts Run
  - Sinnemahoning Creek
  - Mix Run
  - Wykoff Run
  - Dents Run
  - East Branch Hicks Run
  - West Creek
  - Bennett Branch
  - North Creek
  - Sterling Run

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
 a PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*

# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**Cameron County**  
*Natural Systems Greenways*



**Cameron County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart**

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Priority
Exceptional	1	Hicks Run	33.28	7,273	7,227	99.37%	46	0.63%	Elk State Forest, State Game Land #14	2	Vital
	2	Clear Creek	28.76	6,936	1,203	17.34%	5,733	82.66%	Elk State Forest	3	Vital
	3	First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	28.39	26,768	23,847	89.09%	2,921	10.91%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run, Sinnemahoning State Park, Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest	4	Vital
Significant	4	Cooks Run	27.77	2,757	2,706	98.15%	51	1.85%	Sproul State Forest, Elk State Forest	5	Vital
	5	Kettle Creek	27.74	429	398	92.77%	31	7.23%	Sproul State Forest, Elk State Forest	6	Vital
	6	Cooks Run (Cameron County)	25.87	5,734	-	-	5,734	100.00%		7	Exceptional
	7	Potato Creek	25.64	755	-	-	755	100.00%		11	Exceptional
	8	Cowley Run	25.11	599	449	74.96%	150	25.04%	Elk State Forest, Sizerville State Park	12	Exceptional
	9	Mosquito Creek	24.43	1,071	1,071	100.00%	-	-	Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest, Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area	17	Exceptional
	10	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning	23.97	22,771	9,849	43.25%	12,922	56.75%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Square Timber/Big Run, Johnson Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, State Game Land #30	18	Exceptional
	11	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek	23.86	9,973	3,710	37.20%	6,263	62.80%	Elk State Forest	20	Exceptional
	12	Hunts Run	23.63	9,163	6,842	74.67%	2,321	25.33%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Elk State Forest	26	Exceptional
	13	Sinnemahoning Creek	23.39	11,860	8,105	68.34%	3,755	31.66%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Lower Jerry Run Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	27	Exceptional
	14	Mix Run	23.36	4,228	4,024	95.18%	204	4.82%	Quehanna Wild Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	31	Exceptional
15	Wykoff Run	23.14	8,982	7,819	87.05%	1,163	12.95%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Wykoff Run Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	33	Exceptional	
High	16	Dents Run	21.27	1,078	1,069	99.17%	9	0.83%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	50	Significant
	17	East Branch Hicks Run	21.08	3,352	2,510	74.88%	842	25.12%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	51	
	18	West Creek	20.92	8,072	2,368	29.34%	5,704	70.66%	State Game Land #14, Elk State Forest	57	
	19	Bennet Branch	19.93	5,804	3,847	66.28%	1,957	33.72%	Bucktail State Park Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Elk State Forest, Moshannon State Forest	67	Significant
	20	North Creek	19.28	3,662	1,567	42.79%	2,095	57.21%	Elk State Forest	75	Significant
	21	Sterling Run	17.56	3,028	246	8.12%	2,782	91.88%	Elk State Forest	90	High
<b>Totals</b>				<b>144,295</b>	<b>88,857</b>	<b>61.58%</b>	<b>55,438</b>	<b>38.42%</b>			



## CAMERON COUNTY PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### ***West Creek Trail Corridor***

*Project:* Implement the recommendations of the West Creek Trail Master Plan, currently being conducted, for improving the existing West Creek Trail corridor.

*Counties:* Cameron and Elk

*Length:* 10.3 miles in Elk County and 11.6 miles in Cameron County.

*Description:* The West Creek Trail follows the former ALY(PRR), Allegheny & Eastern Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad), corridor that runs from St. Marys, in Elk County, to Emporium, in Cameron County.

This corridor is owned by the West Creek Recreational Trail Association. Currently this trail is open for use. The corridor has been cleared of brush, but the surface is unimproved. Snowmobiles have been using it as a connection between Elk State Forest and Allegheny National Forest.

The next steps for the WCRTA are to apply for a DCNR grant to improve the trail surface, install fencing for safety in several areas, rehabilitate bridges in need of repair, install bollards at crossings to control access, and potentially install sound barriers in the Beechwood area to reduce noise.

The WCRTA also owns a former rail yard within Emporium that they have agreed to allow the borough to develop as a park provided they preserve a corridor through it for the trail.

*Potential Partners:* West Creek Rail Trail Association, PA DCNR, Cameron County, Emporium Borough, Elk County, City of St. Marys, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association.

### ***Sinnemahoning Creeks and Branches / Elk Country Corridor***

*Projects:* Complete feasibility studies for the proposed and non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor, proposed hiking trail connections in Sinnemahoning, and proposed water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek and branches.

*Counties:* Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, and Potter

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* The proposed Elk Country Trail follows the former corridor of the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad which connects DuBois in Clearfield County with Driftwood in Cameron County. If completed the Elk Country Trail will provide connections to the Bucktail Path, Quehanna, and Donut Hole Trails.

Explore the feasibility of an interconnected network of water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine how to connect the land based trails to Sinnemahoning Borough and to one another. During the public input process the following route was suggested for further study:

- The Old Sinnemahoning Trail connects the Quehanna Trail to Lower Jerry Run Rd. This intersects Wykoff Run Road and then cross the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning on a motorized bridge for Wykoff Run Rd. This bridge needs to include pedestrian accommodations the next time it is rehabilitated or replaced by PennDOT. Soon after crossing the river, Wykoff Road intersects SR120.
- Turn to the left and it is a short walk up SR120 to Grove Street. Up Grove Street is the southern terminus of the Bucktail Path. (Also a stop on the Elk Scenic Drive)
- Turn to the right and it is a short walk along SR120 to Jericho. A side street in Jericho takes you to the Ellicott Trail which is the western terminus of the Donut Hole Trail).

We recommend alternatives be explored to route the last two proposed on-road sections off road by obtaining easements through private property (this may require a bridge over the First Fork).

By making these connections hikers will be able to connect with every major State Forest Hiking Trail in the PA Wilds and beyond. This would make for the largest regional trail connection proposed to date. These corridors also connect with the proposed Norfolk Southern, Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park, and Elk Country rail trail corridors recommended herein.

Other regional assets in this corridor include Sinnemahoning State Park, the Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds Elk Viewing Center, Elk State Forest and Natural Areas as well as the Bucktail Trail and Elk scenic drives.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also situated adjacent to several Natural Systems Greenways including; Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

The City of DuBois and Emporium are proposed as a trail towns within this corridor while Penfield, Benezette, Driftwood, and Sinnemahoning are proposed as major hubs and Sinnemahoning State Park is proposed as a hub.

*Potential Partners:* Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, DuBois, DuBois Revitalization Group, Cameron County, Cameron County Conservation District, Elk County, Elk County Conservation District, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Elk State Forest, Sinnemahoning State Park, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association,

Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***Emporium Borough Trails***

Projects: Complete currently funded Borough Trail Feasibility Study. The purpose of this study is to identify a network of trails and pedestrian paths around the Borough as well as connections to the existing West Creek Trail corridor connecting Emporium and Saint Marys.

Complete feasibility study, implement project recommendations. Conduct and implement trail town planning, marketing, and implementation efforts in Emporium Borough.

Improve Fairgrounds Trail Corridor, owned by the WCRTA, which connects Emporium Borough to the Cameron County Fairgrounds.

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, Emporium West Creek Trail Association, Cameron County Conservation District, Sylvan Heritage Council, Emporium Borough Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Project: Implement recommendations of the Emporium Borough Trail Feasibility Study

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, West Creek Trail Association, Cameron County Conservation District, Sylvan Heritage Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Emporium Borough Chamber of Commerce, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

### ***Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks***

Project: Evaluate potential of establishing water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

Potential Partners: Sinnemahoning, Driftwood, and Emporium, Cameron County Conservation District, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park Trail***

Project: Evaluate feasibility for the proposed trail connecting Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park

Potential Partners: Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Sinnemahoning Borough, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks and Bureau of Forestry, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Cameron County.

### ***Elk Country Trail***

Project: Evaluate feasibility of the proposed trail connecting Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, and DuBois.

Potential Partners: Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, DuBois, Cameron County, Elk County, Clearfield County, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry.

### ***Emporium to Thunder Mountain Trail***

Project: Evaluate the feasibility of the proposed Emporium to Thunder Mountain Trail.

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, Cameron County, Elk County, Allegheny National Forest, Pennsylvania Game Commission.

### ***Byways***

Project: Pennsylvania Route 46 Emporium to Smethport Scenic Byway

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, Emporium Borough Chamber of Commerce, Smethport Borough, Smethport Borough Chamber of Commerce, Cameron County, McKean County, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Allegheny National Forest Visitor Bureau, Pennsylvania Byways Program, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region, Inc.

### ***Scenic Drives***

Project: Develop master plan and implement recommendations for the Ridge Road Scenic Drive and Overlooks

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, Emporium Borough Chamber of Commerce, Smethport Borough, Smethport Borough Chamber of Commerce, Cameron County, McKean County, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Allegheny National Forest Visitor Bureau, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry.

### ***Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks Natural System Greenway Corridors***

Projects: Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

Implement recommendations of the Sinnemahoning Watershed Conservation Plan. Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality,

identify and address acid mine drainage issues, conduct streambank stabilization efforts, promote sustainable forestry practices.

Potential Partners: Cameron County Conservation District, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### *Hicks and Slate Run Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements along Bennetts Branch between Hicks Run and Stone Quarry Run

Explore potential for acquisition of conservation and riparian easements at headwaters of Beaver Dam Run (tributary to Bennetts Branch)

Potential Partners: Cameron County Conservation District, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### *Clear Creek Natural Systems Corridor*

Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements along Rich Valley and Clear Creek Roads.

Potential Partners: Cameron County Conservation District, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in Cameron County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

***Cameron County's Potential Partners***

Cameron Conservation District  
20 East Fifth St.  
Room 105  
Emporium, PA 15834  
(814) 486-2244 ext. 5  
ccconservation@cameroncountypa.com

*Trail Associations*

Cliff Clark  
West Creek Recreational Trail Association  
421 North Broad Street  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814-486-3439  
wcrta@windstream.net

*Land Trust / Land Owner Associations*

North Central Forest Landowners' Association  
PO Box 141  
Port Allegheny, PA 16743  
<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/ncfla>  
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
800 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-288-2777  
<http://conserveland.org>  
[info@paconserve.org](mailto:info@paconserve.org)

*Watershed Associations*

Jim Moser  
Bennett Branch Watershed Association  
RD 1 Box 82  
Driftwood, PA 15832  
814-546-2091  
jvmoser8@penn.com

Bucktail Watershed Association  
4 East 6th Street  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814-486-9354  
bucktailwatershed@yahoo.com

*Sportsmen Clubs*

Sinnemahoning Sportsmen's Association  
[info@sinnsports.com](mailto:info@sinnsports.com)

Trout Unlimited  
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036  
Allegheny Mountain # 036  
107 Simmons St.  
Du Bois PA 15801  
[www.amctu.org](http://www.amctu.org)  
[maksak@comcast.net](mailto:maksak@comcast.net)

*Snowmobile Associations*

Cameron County Snowmobile Association  
PO Box 104  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814/486-1514  
[www.ccsariders.com](http://www.ccsariders.com)  
[jpahel@penn.com](mailto:jpahel@penn.com)  
*Outfitters*

Hick's Run Outfitters  
689 Hicks Run Rd  
Driftwood, PA 15832  
814-787-4287

*Visitors Bureaus*

NW PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau  
175 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-5197  
[www.visitpago.com](http://www.visitpago.com)  
[info@visitpago.com](mailto:info@visitpago.com)

*Healthcare*

Charles Cole Memorial Hospital  
1001 East 2nd Street  
(Route 6 East)  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814-274-9300  
[www.charlescolehospital.com](http://www.charlescolehospital.com)

*Historical Societies / Associations*

Cameron County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 433  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814-486-0213  
[www.thelittlemuseum.org](http://www.thelittlemuseum.org)  
[Info@thelittlemuseum.org](mailto:Info@thelittlemuseum.org)

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## **CLEARFIELD COUNTY GREENWAYS RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



*Bilger's Rocks, Clearfield County*



*Houtzdale Line Rail Trail, Clearfield County*

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## CLEARFIELD COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for Clearfield County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## CLEARFIELD COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within Clearfield County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 37 existing trail corridors
- 1 designated scenic byway
- 18 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 1 existing water trail
- 4 proposed water trail opportunities
- 7 proposed trail towns
- 2 proposed scenic byways
- 2 major hubs
- 7 hubs

Clearfield County's Existing Trail Corridors

Clearfield County's Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Houtzdale Line Rail Trail	X	X	X	X					
Dimeling to Madera Trail	X	X		X					
Clearfield to Grampian Trail	X	X		X					
Beaver Meadow Walkway Trail	X				X				
Parker Dam State Park Trails	X	X							
Rockton Mountain Trail System	X	X		X					
Overland Trail	X								
Old Horse Trail	X								
Rattlesnake Trail	X								
Doctors Fork Trail	X								
Lick Run Trail	X								
CPL Trail	X								
Big Ridge Trail	X								
Spur Line Trail	X								
Quehanna Trail	X								
West Cross Connector	X								
Quehanna Cut Off Trail	X								
Ginger Whiskey Trail	X								
East Cross Connector	X								
Mosquito Creek Trail	X								
Bellefonte Posse Trail	X	X							
Kunes Camp Trail	X								
Mohawk Trail	X								
No. 5 Trail	X								
Reservoir Trail	X								
Lucas Run Trail	X								
Little Moyer Run Trail	X								
No. 11 Trail	X	X							
Old Sinnemahoning Trail	X								
Snow Shoe Trail	X	X				X			
State Game Lands No. 34 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 77 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 78 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 87 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 93 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 94 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 321 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

Clearfield County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors

Clearfield County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Clearfield County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Mahoning Shadow Trail Extension	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	4	4	10	51	3-2	1	Exceptional	X	X		X					
DuBois to Falls Creek Trail	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	2	5	10	50	4-1	2		X	X		X					
Elk Country Trail	5	5	3	3	1	5	4	2	4	10	42	7	3		X	X		X					
Snow Shoe Rail Trail - Wallacetown to Clearfield	5	5	1	3	1	5	4	3	3	10	40	9-1	4		X	X				X		X	
Anderson Creek Gorge Trail	5	1	1	4	1	5	4	1	4	10	36	11	5		X	X		X					
Dimeling to Clearfield Trail	5	1	1	3	1	5	4	1	3	10	34	13-2	6		X	X		X					
Snow Shoe Rail Trail Extension	5	5	1	3	2	5	4	2	4	0	31	15	7		X	X				X		X	
Houtzdale Line Trail Extension East	5	5	1	3	1	5	4	2	4	0	30	16-1	8	Significant	X	X	X	X					
Burnside Trail	3	1	1	3	1	3	3	1	2	10	28	18-2	9		X	X		X					
Snow Shoe Rail Trail Extension - Philipsburg to Hale	5	5	1	3	1	3	3	3	3	0	27	19-1	10		X	X				X		X	
Irvona Mahaffey Trail	1	1	1	2	1	3	3	1	2	10	25	21-1	11		X	X		X					
Montgomery Creek Trail	1	1	0	2	1	3	2	1	2	10	23	23-2	12		X	X		X					
Irvona Branch Corridor Trail	3	1	1	3	1	4	4	2	3	0	22	24-1	13		X	X		X					
Houtzdale Trail Extension West	3	3	1	4	1	3	3	2	1	0	21	25-1	14		High	X	X	X	X				
Penn Central Transportation Corridor Trail	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	0	1	10	21	25-2	14	X		X		X					
Burnside Cherry Tree Trail	1	1	1	2	1	3	2	0	0	10	21	25-3	14	X		X		X					
Irvona to Game Land Trail	1	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	2	0	14	32-1	15	X		X							
Great Shamokin Path Trail	5	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	11	35	16	X									

Clearfield County's Potential Water Trails

Clearfield County's Potential Water Trails	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Clearfield County Ranking	Priority
Clearfield Creek	5	3	3	3	1	1	10	26	3	1	Exceptional
Anderson Creek	5	1	1	3	1	1	10	22	5	2	
Moshannon Creek	5	1	1	1	0	1	0	9	10	3	Significant
Chest Creek	5	1	1	1	0	1	0	9	10	3	

Clearfield County's Trail Towns, Major Hubs, & Hubs

- DuBois ..... Trail Town
- Clearfield..... Trail Town
- Curwensville ..... Trail Town
- Curwensville Lake ..... Hub
- Grampian..... Trail Town
- Philipsburg ..... Trail Town
- Coalport..... Trail Town
- Houtzdale ..... Hub
- Mahaffey ..... Major Hub
- Penfield ..... Major Hub
- Karthaus ..... Trail Town
- Bilgers Rocks ..... Hub
- S.B. Elliott State Park ..... Hub
- Parker Dam State Park ..... Hub
- Rock Run Recreation Area..... Hub
- Camp Wopsononock Natural Area..... Hub

# Location Map



## Trails

### 1 Proposed & Conceptual Trails

1. Mahoning Shadow Trail Extension
2. Dubois to Falls Creek Trails
3. Elk Country Trail
4. Snow Shoe Rail Trail - Wallacetown to Clearfield
5. Anderson Creek Gorge Trail
6. Dimeling to Clearfield Trail
7. Snow Shoe Rail Trail Ext
8. Houtzdale Line Trail Ext East
9. Burnside Trail
10. Snow Shoe Trail Ext. - Philipsburg to Hale
11. Irvona Mahaffey Trail
12. Montgomery Creek Trail
13. Irvona Branch Corridor Trail
- 14-1. Houtzdale Trail Ext West
- 14-2. Penn Central Transportation Corridor Trail
- 14-3. Burnside Cherrytree Trail
15. Irvona to Game Land Trail
16. Great Shamokin Path (Hiking Trail)

### 2 Existing Trails

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Houtzdale Line Rail Trail     | 16. West Cross Connector    |
| 2. Dimeling to Madera Trail      | 17. Quehanna Cut Off Trail  |
| 3. Clearfield to Grampian Trail  | 18. Ginger Whiskey Trail    |
| 4. Beaver Meadow Walkway         | 19. East Cross Connector    |
| 5. Parker Dam State Park Trails  | 20. Mosquito Creek Trail    |
| 6. Rockton Mountain Trail System | 21. Bellefonte Posse Trail  |
| 7. Overland Trail                | 22. Kunes Camp Trail        |
| 8. Old Horse Trail               | 23. Mohawk Trail            |
| 9. Rattlesnake Trail             | 24. No. 5 Trail             |
| 10. Doctors Fork Trail           | 25. Reservoir Trail         |
| 11. Lick Run Trail               | 26. Lucas Run Trail         |
| 12. CPL Trail                    | 27. Little Moyer Trail      |
| 13. Big Ridge Trail              | 28. No. 11 Trail            |
| 14. Spur Line Trail              | 29. Old Sinnemahoning Trail |
| 15. Quehanna Trail               | 30. Snow Shoe Trail         |

### 3 Existing Water Trails

- A. West Branch Susquehanna River

### 4 Proposed Water Trails

- A. Clearfield Creek
- B. Anderson Creek
- C. Moshannon Creek
- D. Chest Creek

### 5 Existing Scenic Byways

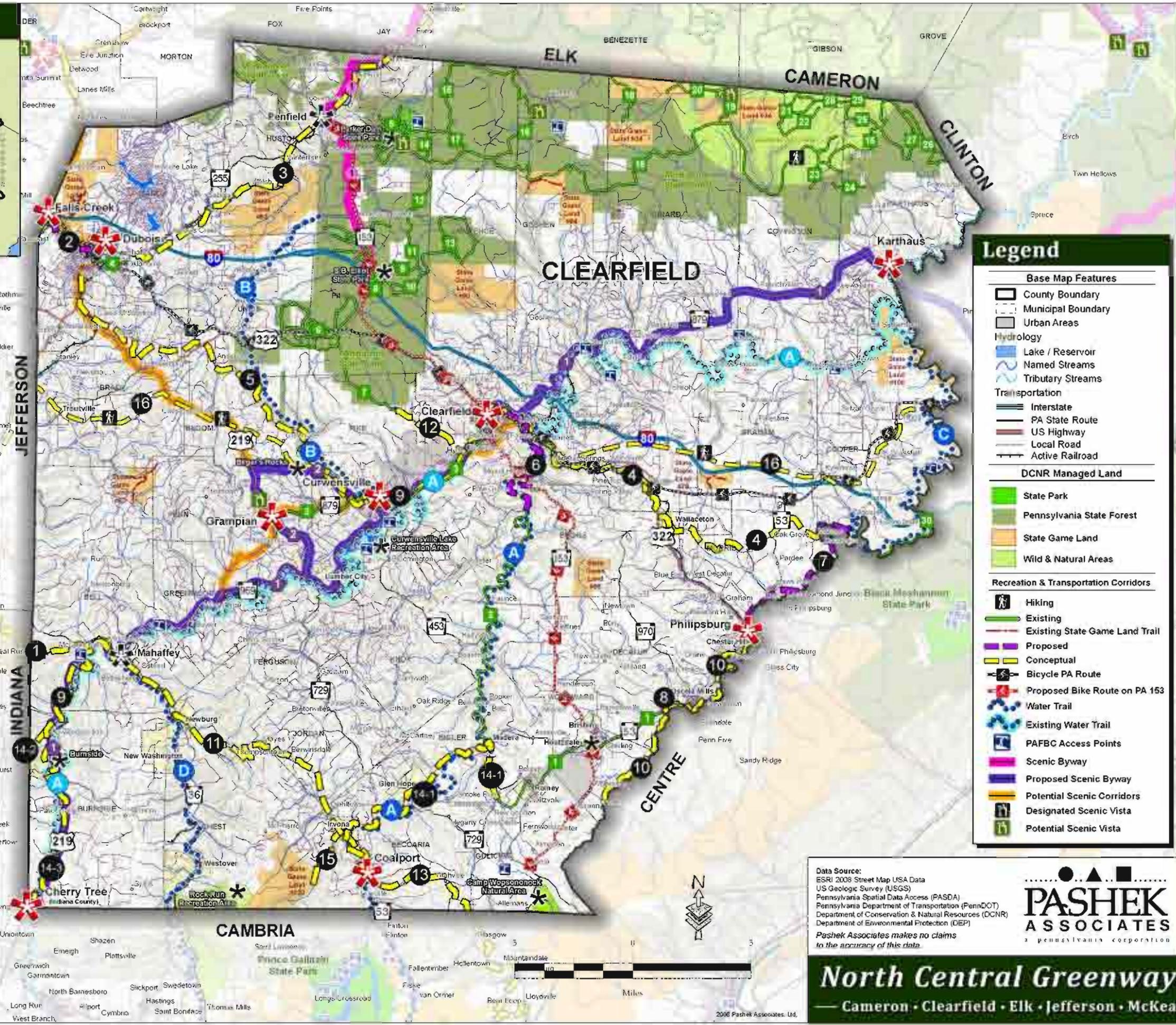
- 1. Elk Scenic Drive

### 6 Proposed Scenic Byways

- 1. West Branch Byway
- 2. West Branch Loop

### Points of Interest

- Proposed Trail Town
- Major Hub
- Hub



### Legend

Base Map Features	
	County Boundary
	Municipal Boundary
	Urban Areas
Hydrology	
	Lake / Reservoir
	Named Streams
	Tributary Streams
Transportation	
	Interstate
	PA State Route
	US Highway
	Local Road
	Active Railroad
DCNR Managed Land	
	State Park
	Pennsylvania State Forest
	State Game Land
	Wild & Natural Areas
Recreation & Transportation Corridors	
	Hiking
	Existing
	Existing State Game Land Trail
	Proposed
	Conceptual
	Bicycle PA Route
	Proposed Bike Route on PA 153
	Water Trail
	Existing Water Trail
	PAFBC Access Points
	Scenic Byway
	Proposed Scenic Byway
	Potential Scenic Corridors
	Designated Scenic Vista
	Potential Scenic Vista

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*



# Clearfield County Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

## North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

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# Location Map



## Natural Systems Greenways

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mosquito Creek                 | 12. Alder Run               |
| 2. Muddy Run                      | 13. Bennett Branch          |
| 3. Laurel Run                     | 14. Chest Creek             |
| 4. Moshannon Creek                | 15. Medix Run               |
| 5. Anderson Creek                 | 16. Moravian Run            |
| 6. Sandy Lick Creek               | 17. Deer Creek              |
| 7. Clearfield Creek               | 18. Upper Three Runs        |
| 8. Lick Run                       | 19. Montgomery Creek        |
| 9. West Branch Susquehanna River  | 20. Little Clearfield Creek |
| 10. Mahoning Creek                | 21. Witmer Run              |
| 11. Trout Run (Clearfield County) | 22. Sandy Creek             |

## Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

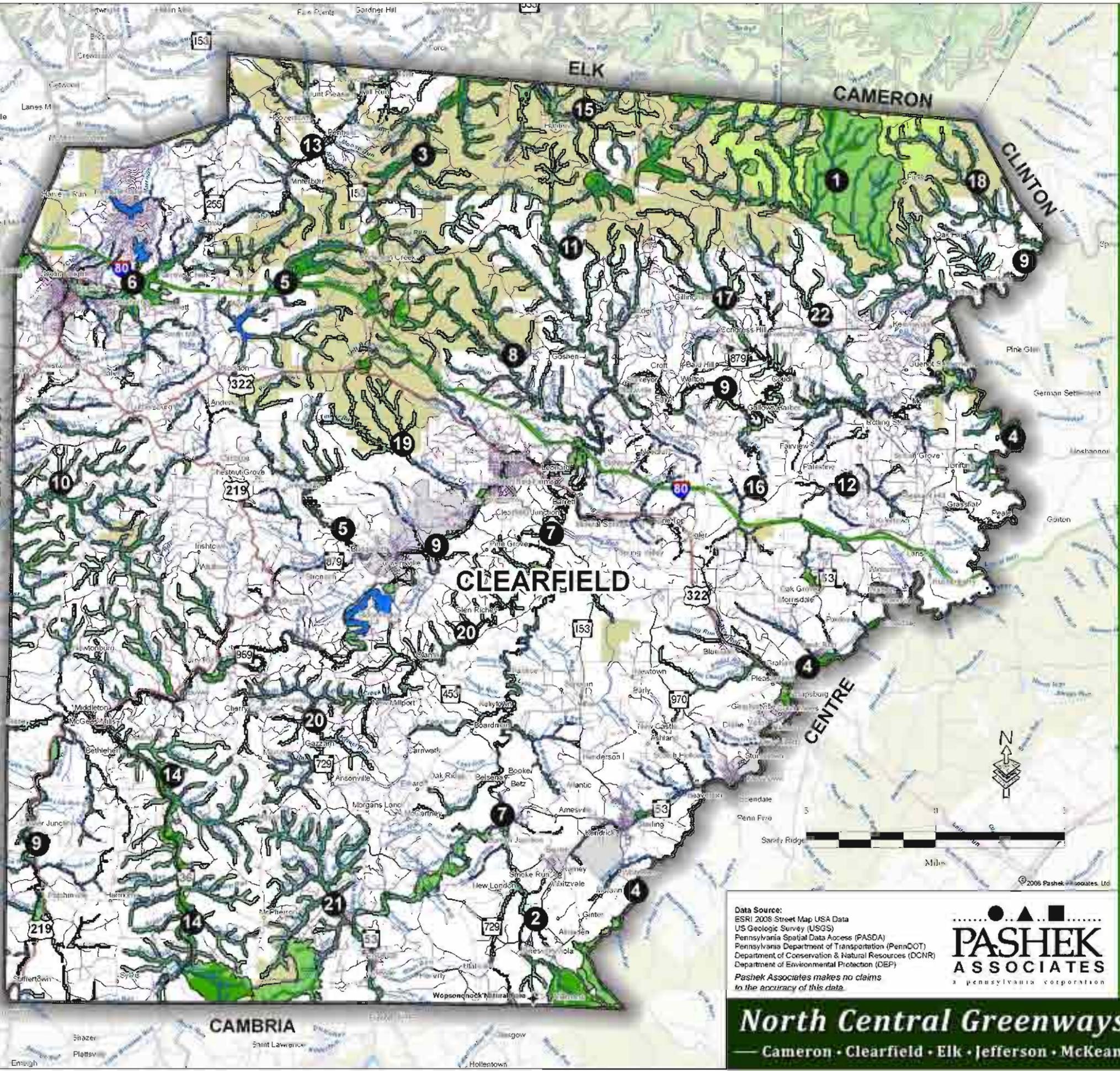
- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad

**Managed (Conserved) Lands**

- Managed (Conserved) Lands
- Managed (Conserved) Wild and Natural Areas

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- 16 to 27
- 28 to 36
- 37 to 47



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
 a pennsylvania corporation

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*

# Clearfield County Natural Systems Greenways

## North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —



**Clearfield County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart**

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Priority
Exceptional	1	Mosquito Creek	24.43	17,450	15,633	89.59%	1,817	10.41%	Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest, State Game Land #34	17	Exceptional
	2	Muddy Run	22.58	2,616	580	22.17%	2,036	77.83%	Camp Wopsononock	39	Exceptional
	3	Laurel Run	22.20	4,922	3,920	79.64%	1,002	20.36%	Moshannon State Forest, Parker Dam State Park	43	Significant
Significant	4	Moshannon Creek	21.58	5,822	330	5.67%	5,492	94.33%	State Game Land #100	47	Significant
	5	Anderson Creek	21.47	7,315	2,382	32.56%	4,933	67.44%	Moshannon State Forest, State Game Land #93, S.B. Elliott State Park	49	Significant
	6	Sandy Lick Creek	21.03	4,747	40	0.84%	4,707	99.16%	State Game Lands #77 and #93	53	Significant
	7	Clearfield Creek	21.01	5,317	11	0.21%	5,306	99.79%	State Game Land #98	55	Significant
	8	Lick Run	20.93	3,952	2,264	57.29%	1,688	42.71%	State Game Land #90, Moshannon State Forest, S.B. Elliot State Park	56	Significant
	9	West Branch Susquehanna River	20.79	18,776	1,330	7.08%	17,446	92.92%	State Game Land #87, Moshannon State Forest, S.B. Elliot State Park	59	Significant
	10	Mahoning Creek	20.67	5,385	80	1.49%	5,305	98.51%	State Game Land #87	60	Significant
	11	Trout Run (Clearfield County)	20.14	5,968	2,180	36.53%	3,788	63.47%	State Game Land #94, Moshannon State Forest	65	Significant
	12	Alder Run	20.01	1,226	-	-	1,226	100.00%		66	Significant
	13	Bennett Branch	19.93	4,118	2,172	52.74%	1,946	47.26%	Moshannon State Forest, State Game Land #93	67	Significant
14	Chest Creek	19.42	10,669	28	0.26%	10,641	99.74%	State Game Land #120	74	Significant	
High	15	Medix Run	17.99	2,759	2,486	90.11%	273	9.89%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest	86	High
	16	Moravian Run	17.92	568	72	12.68%	496	87.32%	State Game Land #78	87	High
	17	Deer Creek	17.86	2,365	484	20.47%	1,881	79.53%	Moshannon State Forest	88	High
	18	Upper Three Runs	17.71	2,451	1,561	63.69%	890	36.31%	Moshannon State Forest, Quehanna Wild Area	89	High
	19	Montgomery Creek	17.25	1,817	1,392	76.61%	425	23.39%	Moshannon State Forest	93	High
	20	Little Clearfield Creek	17.13	5,569	-	-	5,569	100.00%		95	High
	21	North Witmer Run	17.02	5,661	1,908	33.70%	3,753	66.30%	State Game Land #120	96	High
	22	Sandy Creek	16.88	1,316	239	18.16%	1,077	81.84%	Moshannon State Forest	97	High
<b>Totals</b>				<b>120,789</b>	<b>39,092</b>	<b>32.36%</b>	<b>81,697</b>	<b>67.64%</b>			



## CLEARFIELD COUNTY

### *Sinnemahoning Creeks and Branches / Elk Country Corridor*

*Projects:* Complete feasibility studies for the proposed and non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor, proposed hiking trail connections in Sinnemahoning, and proposed water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek and branches.

*Counties:* Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, and Potter

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* The proposed Elk Country Trail follows the former corridor of the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad which connects DuBois in Clearfield County with Driftwood in Cameron County. If completed the Elk Country Trail will provide connections to the Bucktail Path, Quehanna, and Donut Hole Trails.

Explore the feasibility of an interconnected network of water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine how to connect the land based trails to Sinnemahoning Borough and to one another. By making these connections hikers will be able to connect with every major State Forest Hiking Trail in the PA Wilds and beyond. This would make for the largest regional trail connection proposed to date. These corridors also connect with the proposed Norfolk Southern, Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park, and Elk Country rail trail corridors recommended herein.

Other regional assets in this corridor include Sinnemahoning State Park, the Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds Elk Viewing Center, Elk State Forest and Natural Areas as well as the Bucktail Trail and Elk scenic drives.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also situated adjacent to several Natural Systems Greenways including; Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

The City of DuBois and Emporium are proposed as a trail towns within this corridor while Penfield, Benezette, Driftwood, and Sinnemahoning are proposed as major hubs and Sinnemahoning State Park is proposed as a hub.

*Potential Partners:* Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, DuBois, DuBois Revitalization Group, Cameron County, Cameron County Conservation District, Elk County, Elk County Conservation District, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Elk State Forest, Sinnemahoning State Park, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of

Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***DuBois to Falls Creek Trail***

Project: Develop and improve the DuBois to Falls Creek Trail following the recommendations of the Sandy Lick Creek Recreation Area Master Plan.

Potential Partners: DuBois, Falls Creek, Tri-County Trails Association, Greater DuBois Chamber of Commerce, DuBois Revitalization Group, Sandy Lick Conservation Initiative, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority.

### ***Snowshoe Rail Trail***

Project: Maintain the vital link between Clearfield and Centre Counties by improvements to the trail, specifically the viaduct bridge.

Potential Partners: Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Snowshoe Rail Trail Association, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development.

### ***West Branch Susquehanna River***

Project: Develop and implement trail town philosophy for Karthaus, Clearfield, and Curwensville.

Potential Partners: Karthaus Borough, Clearfield, Curwensville, Clearfield Chamber of Commerce, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

### ***Curwensville Lake***

Project: Prepare master plan update for Curwensville Lake.

Potential Partners: Curwensville Lake Authority, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

### ***Clearfield Riverwalk and Camp Wopsononock Natural Area***

Projects: Complete planning efforts and implement recommendations for Clearfield Riverwalk and Camp Wopsononock Natural Area.

Potential Partners: Clearfield Borough, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***Chest Creek and Clearfield Creek***

Project: Evaluate opportunities for the proposed Chest Creek and Clearfield Creek Water Trails.

Potential Partners: Chest Creek Watershed Alliance, Clearfield County, Cambria County, Mahaffey, Westover, Clearfield, Madera, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Project: Expand fishing access to Chest Creek by acquiring fishing access easements / property.

Potential Partners: Chest Creek Watershed Alliance, Trout Unlimited, Clearfield County, Cambria County, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Cambria County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Rock Run Recreation Area.

### ***Byways***

Projects: West Branch and West Branch Loop Scenic Byways

Potential Partners: Karthaus Borough, Clearfield, Curwensville, Grampian, Mahaffey, Clearfield Chamber of Commerce, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Susquehanna River Partnership, Bilgers Rocks Association PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania Byways Program.

### ***Muddy Run and Clearfield Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridors***

Project: Complete watershed conservation plan. Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, identify and address acid mine drainage issues, conduct streambank stabilization efforts, promote sustainable development practices, and identify and address on-lot septic issues.

Project: Evaluate opportunities for establishing conservation easements, sustainable forestry and agricultural practices, and water quality improvement projects such as acid mine drainage and non-point source pollution remediation in the Muddy Run and Clearfield Creek watersheds.

Potential Partners: Clearfield Creek Watershed Association, Clearfield County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Project: Evaluate opportunities for water quality improvement projects such as acid mine drainage and non-point source pollution remediation.

Potential Partners: Clearfield Creek Watershed Association, Clearfield County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Project: Complete watershed conservation plan for Clearfield Creek. Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, identify and address acid mine drainage issues, conduct streambank stabilization efforts, promote sustainable development practices, and identify and address on-lot septic issues.

Potential Partners: Clearfield Creek Watershed Association, Clearfield Borough, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### *Anderson Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridors*

Projects: Implement recommendations of the Anderson Creek Watershed Assessment, Restoration and Implementation Plan. Explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, identify and address acid mine drainage issues, conduct streambank stabilization efforts, promote sustainable development practices, and identify and address on-lot septic issues.

Potential Partners: Anderson Creek Watershed Association, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### *West Branch Susquehanna River Natural System Greenway Corridor*

Projects: For the West Branch Susquehanna River Natural System Greenway Corridor explore potential for acquisition of conservation easements and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, and sustainable land development practices.

Potential Partners: Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in Clearfield County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

### *Clearfield County's Potential Partners*

#### *State Agencies*

Mr. Vance Dunbar  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
P.O. Box 272  
Hyde, PA 16843

Mr. Bob Merill  
Moshannon State Forest  
3372 State Park Road  
Penfield, PA 15849

Ms. Beth Grove  
Parker Dam State Park  
28 Fairview Road  
Penfield, PA 15849-9799  
814-765-0630  
parkerdamsp@state.pa.us

#### *County Agencies*

Clearfield Conservation District  
650 Leonard Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-2629  
www.cfldccd.com  
clfdccd@atlanticbbn.net

Ms. Sandy Fink Barrett  
Clearfield County Recreation & Tourism Authority  
12 N. Front Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-5734  
sfbarrett@clearfieldco.org

Ms. Kathie Lansberry , Operations Manager  
Curwensville Lake Authority  
Assistant Operation Manager: Shane Kelly  
814-236-2320  
clra@pennswoods.net

#### *Trail Associations*

Mr. Ben Coppolo  
Bennetts Valley Rail Trails  
P.O. Box 108  
Weedville, PA 15868

Ms. Linda Hatcher  
Clearfield County Rails to Trails Association  
151 Northview Drive  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-9771  
ghatcher1@verizon.net

Houtzdale Line Trails to Trails, Inc.  
501 David Street  
Houtzdale, PA 16651  
814-378-7817

Clearfield Grampian Rail Trail  
151 Northview Drive  
Clearfield, PA 16830

Quehanna Area Trails Club  
882 Rolling Stone Road  
Morrisdale, PA 16858

#### *Land Trust / Land Owner Associations*

The Bilger's Rocks Association  
P.O. Box 133  
Grampian, Pa 16838  
(814) 236-1617  
info@bilgersrocks.com  
www.bilgersrocks.com

Clarion County Forest Stewardship Council  
8 Grant Street  
Clarion, PA 16214  
<http://clarion.extension.psu.edu/Agriculture/Forestry.html>

Mr. Gary Gilmore  
Clearfield - Jefferson Counties Forest Stewardship  
Committee  
1514 Rt. 28  
Brookville, PA 15825  
[ggilmore@state.pa.us](mailto:ggilmore@state.pa.us)

Ms. Renee Carey, Executive Director  
Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy  
PO Box 2083  
Williamsport, PA 17703  
570-323-6222  
[www.npcweb.org](http://www.npcweb.org)  
[rcarey@npcweb.org](mailto:rcarey@npcweb.org)

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
800 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-288-2777  
<http://conserveland.org>  
[info@paconserve.org](mailto:info@paconserve.org)

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership  
201 Furnace Road  
Lewisburg, PA 17837  
570-522-7211  
[greenway@susquehannagreenway.org](mailto:greenway@susquehannagreenway.org)

*Watershed Associations*

Mr. Malcolm Barnes  
Anderson Creek Watershed Association  
3402 Grandview Road  
Curwensville, PA 16833

Mr. Earl Smithmeyer  
Clearfield Creek Watershed Association  
216 Beldin Hollow Road  
Ashville, PA 16613  
[www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org](http://www.clearfieldcreekwatershed.org)  
Mr. Ken Rowe  
Bennett Branch Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 99  
Benezette, PA 15821

Headwaters Resource Conservation & Development  
Council, Inc.  
478 Jeffers Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-1372 ext. 4  
[headwatr@penn.com](mailto:headwatr@penn.com)  
[www.parc.org/Headwaters/headwaters%20home.htm](http://www.parc.org/Headwaters/headwaters%20home.htm)

Deer Creek Watershed Association  
c/o Clearfield County Conservation District  
650 Leonard Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830-3243

Little Clear Creek Watershed Association  
2278 Little Clear Creek Road  
Olanta, PA 16863

Morgan Run Watershed Group  
c/o Clearfield County Conservation District  
650 Leonard Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830-3243

Mr. Dan Snyder  
Chest Creek Watershed Alliance  
392 Glendale Lake Road  
Patton, PA 16668  
[www.pattonboro.com/chestcreek/](http://www.pattonboro.com/chestcreek/)

Mr. John Dugan  
DuBois City Watershed Commission  
P.O. Box 408  
DuBois, PA 15801-0408

Mr. Art Beveridge  
Moshannon Creek Watershed Coalition  
P.O. Box 4  
Osceola Mills, PA 16666-0004

Ms. Anna Mae Pezulla  
Emigh Run Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 204  
Clearfield, PA 16830-0508

Mr. Bill Lawhead  
Montgomery Run Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 508  
Clearfield, PA 16830-0508

Mr. Paul Staniszewski  
Upper Mahoning Creek Watershed Association  
McGees Mills Road, Box 1  
Troutville, PA 15866

Hubler Run Watershed Association  
313 Fifth Street  
Philipsburg, PA 16823

Mike and Linda Makufka  
Sandy Lick Conservation Initiative  
P.O. Box 93  
DuBois, PA 15801-0093

*Sportsmen Clubs*

Mr. Lou Marrara  
Mosquito Creek Sportsmen's Association  
P.O. Box 218  
Frenchville, PA 16836-0218

Central Counties Concerned Sportsmen

Pennsylvania Wildlife Habitat Unlimited  
[www.pwhu.org](http://www.pwhu.org)

Trout Unlimited  
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036  
Allegheny Mountain # 036  
107 Simmons St.  
DuBois, PA 15801  
[maksak@comcast.net](mailto:maksak@comcast.net)

Mr. George Hill  
Woodduck Chapter 235 Trout Unlimited  
125 North Eleventh Street  
Philipsburg, PA 16866

Mr. Joel Kraus  
West Branch Sportsmen's Association  
2657 Schoonover Road  
Kylertown, PA 16837

Woodduck Chapter Trout Unlimited  
Clearfield County Senior Environment Corps

*ATV Clubs / Areas*

Rock Run Recreation Area  
1228 Saint Lawrence Road  
Patton, PA 16668-8701  
(814) 674-6026  
[www.rockrunrecreation.com](http://www.rockrunrecreation.com)  
[rock\\_run@verizon.net](mailto:rock_run@verizon.net)

Central Pennsylvania ATV Association Inc.  
P.O. Box 275  
Houtzdale, PA 16651  
Bob Abernethy  
[www.cpatva.org](http://www.cpatva.org)  
[boba @ csrlink.net](mailto:boba@csrlink.net)

Snow Shoe Rails to Trails  
P.O. Box 314  
Clarence, PA 16829  
Mr. Trilby Mayes  
[www.ssrt.org](http://www.ssrt.org)  
[cooper\\_2356 @ yahoo.com](mailto:cooper_2356@yahoo.com)  
(814) 387-6518

Mr. Kenneth Emmerick  
T-Lake Riders Club  
611 West Main Street  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
(814) 772-1271  
[kenemm@alltel.net](mailto:kenemm@alltel.net)

*Snowmobile Clubs*

Hilltop Howlers  
PO Box 169  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814/583-7030

*Outfitters*

Mr. Dave McCracken  
McCrackens Canoe Rental & Sales  
5409 Shawville Highway  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-1410  
paddle@mccrackencanoe.com.  
Visitors Bureaus / Chambers of Commerce

Ms. Sandy Fink-Barrett  
Clearfield County Recreation & Tourism Authority  
12 North Front Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-5734  
www.visitclearfieldcounty.org  
info@visitclearfieldcounty.org

Clearfield Chamber of Commerce  
125 E. Market Street  
PO Box 250  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-7567  
www.clearfieldchamber.com

DuBois Chamber of Commerce  
33 N. Brady Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-5010  
www.duboischamber.com

Downtown DuBois Revitalization Group  
109 North Brady Street, Second Floor  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-3064  
downtowndubois@verizon.net

*Healthcare*

Clearfield Hospital  
809 Turnpike Avenue  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
(814) 765-5341  
www.clearfieldhosp.org

DuBois Regional Medical Center  
100 Hospital Avenue  
DuBois, PA 15801  
(814) 371-2200  
www.drmc.org

*Historical Societies / Associations*

Clearfield County Historical Society and Museum  
104 East Pine Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
www.clfdhistory.org  
dshaffner@clfdhistory.org

## **ELK COUNTY PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



*Knox Kane Railroad Corridor, Elk County*



*Allegheny National Forest, Elk County*



*Johnsonburg, Elk County*



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## ELK COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for Elk County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## ELK COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within Elk County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either follow a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 22 existing trail corridors
- 2 designated scenic byways
- 11 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 3 existing water trails
- 1 proposed water trail opportunity
- 2 proposed scenic byways
- 4 proposed trail towns
- 1 major hubs
- 7 hubs

Elk County's Existing Trail Corridors

Elk County's Existing Trail Corridors	Typical Uses								
	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Clarion - Little Toby Creek Trail	X	X		X					
Loleta Trail	X								
Little Drummer Historical Path Trail	X								
Laurel Hill Trail	X								
Timberline ATV Trail						X		X	
Marienville ATV Trail						X		X	
Twin Lakes Trail	X								
Big Mill Creek Trail	X	X							
Brush Hollow Trail	X	X							
Quehanna Trail	X								
Mosquito Trail	X								
Marian Brooks Loop & Teaberry Trail	X								
Elk Trail	X	X	X	X					
Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail	X								
Pine Tree Trail	X								
Clermont Trail	X								
Shawmut Trail	X	X		X					
State Game Lands No. 14 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 25 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 28 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 44 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 311 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

**Elk County's Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors**

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either follow a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

Elk County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Elk County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle		
	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Elk County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle		
Knox and Kane Trail	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	55	1-1	1-1	Exceptional	X	X		X		X	X	X			
West Creek Trail	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	55	1-2	1-2		X	X		X			X				
Ridgway to St. Marys Trail	5	5	0	4	3	5	4	3	4	10	43	6	2		X	X		X							
Elk Country Trail	5	5	2	3	1	5	4	2	4	10	41	7	3		X	X	X	X							
St. Marys to Brockway Trail	3	1	1	4	0	4	4	1	4	10	32	14	4	Significant	X	X		X							
St. Marys to Johnsonburg Trail	3	1	0	2	1	3	3	2	3	10	28	17	5		X	X		X							
Johnsonburg to Ridgway Trail	3	2	0	3	1	2	2	1	3	10	27	19	6		X	X	X	X							
Clarion River Trail	3	0	0	3	2	2	2	1	1	10	24	22	7	High	X		X	X							
Bendigo Trail	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	1	0	22	24	8												
Paine to Weedville Trail	3	1	1	2	0	3	2	2	1	0	15	31	9												
Spring Creek Trail	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	9	35	10												

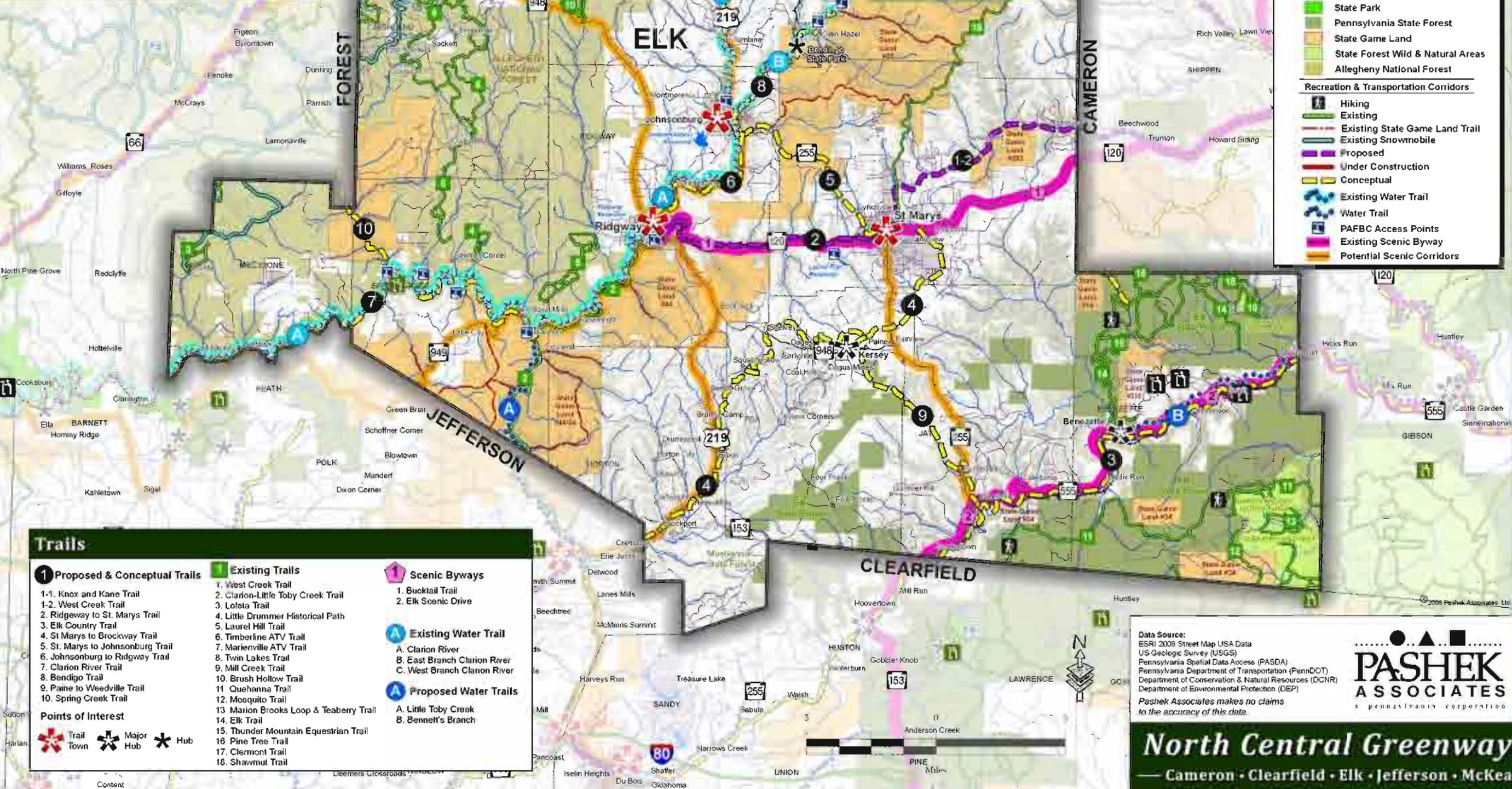
*Elk County's Potential Water Trails*

Elk County's Potential Water Trails	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Elk County Ranking	Priority
Little Toby Creek	3	3	1	3	1	2	10	23	1	Exceptional
Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch	5	1	1	1	0	2	10	20	2	

*Elk County's Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs*

- Ridgway ..... Trail Town
- Benezette ..... Major Hub
- St. Marys ..... Trail Town
- Johnsonburg ..... Trail Town
- Wilcox ..... Trail Town
- Kersey ..... Hub
- Elk State Park – East Branch Dam ..... Hub
- Bendigo State Park ..... Hub
- Twin Lakes Recreation Area ..... Hub
- Allegheny National Forest Trails ..... Hub
- Lamont ..... Hub
- Russell City ..... Hub

# Location Map



### Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Borough
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad

**DCNR Managed Land**

- State Park
- Pennsylvania State Forest
- State Game Land
- State Forest Wild & Natural Areas
- Allegheny National Forest

**Recreation & Transportation Corridors**

- Hiking
- Existing
- Existing State Game Land Trail
- Existing Snowmobile
- Proposed
- Under Construction
- Conceptual
- Existing Water Trail
- Water Trail
- PAFBC Access Points
- Existing Scenic Byway
- Potential Scenic Corridors

### Trails

<p><b>1 Proposed &amp; Conceptual Trails</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-1. Knox and Kane Trail</li> <li>1-2. West Creek Trail</li> <li>2. Ridgeway to St. Marys Trail</li> <li>3. Elk Country Trail</li> <li>4. St. Marys to Brockway Trail</li> <li>5. St. Marys to Johnsonburg Trail</li> <li>6. Johnsonburg to Ridgway Trail</li> <li>7. Clarion River Trail</li> <li>8. Bendigo Trail</li> <li>9. Paine to Weedville Trail</li> <li>10. Spring Creek Trail</li> </ol>	<p><b>Existing Trails</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. West Creek Trail</li> <li>2. Clarion-Little Toby Creek Trail</li> <li>3. Loteta Trail</li> <li>4. Little Drummer Historical Path</li> <li>5. Laurel Hill Trail</li> <li>6. Timberline ATV Trail</li> <li>7. Marienville ATV Trail</li> <li>8. Twin Lakes Trail</li> <li>9. Mill Creek Trail</li> <li>10. Brush Hollow Trail</li> <li>11. Quehanna Trail</li> <li>12. Mosquito Trail</li> <li>13. Marion Brooks Loop &amp; Teaberry Trail</li> <li>14. Elk Trail</li> <li>15. Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail</li> <li>16. Pine Tree Trail</li> <li>17. Clermont Trail</li> <li>18. Shawmut Trail</li> </ol>	<p><b>Scenic Byways</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bucktail Trail</li> <li>2. Elk Scenic Drive</li> </ol>
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**Existing Water Trail**

- A. Clarion River
- B. East Branch Clarion River
- C. West Branch Clarion River

**Proposed Water Trails**

- A. Little Toby Creek
- B. Bennett's Branch

**Points of Interest**

- Trail Town
- Major Hub
- Hub

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*



# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**Elk County**  
 Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

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# Location Map



# Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad

**Managed (Conserved) Lands**

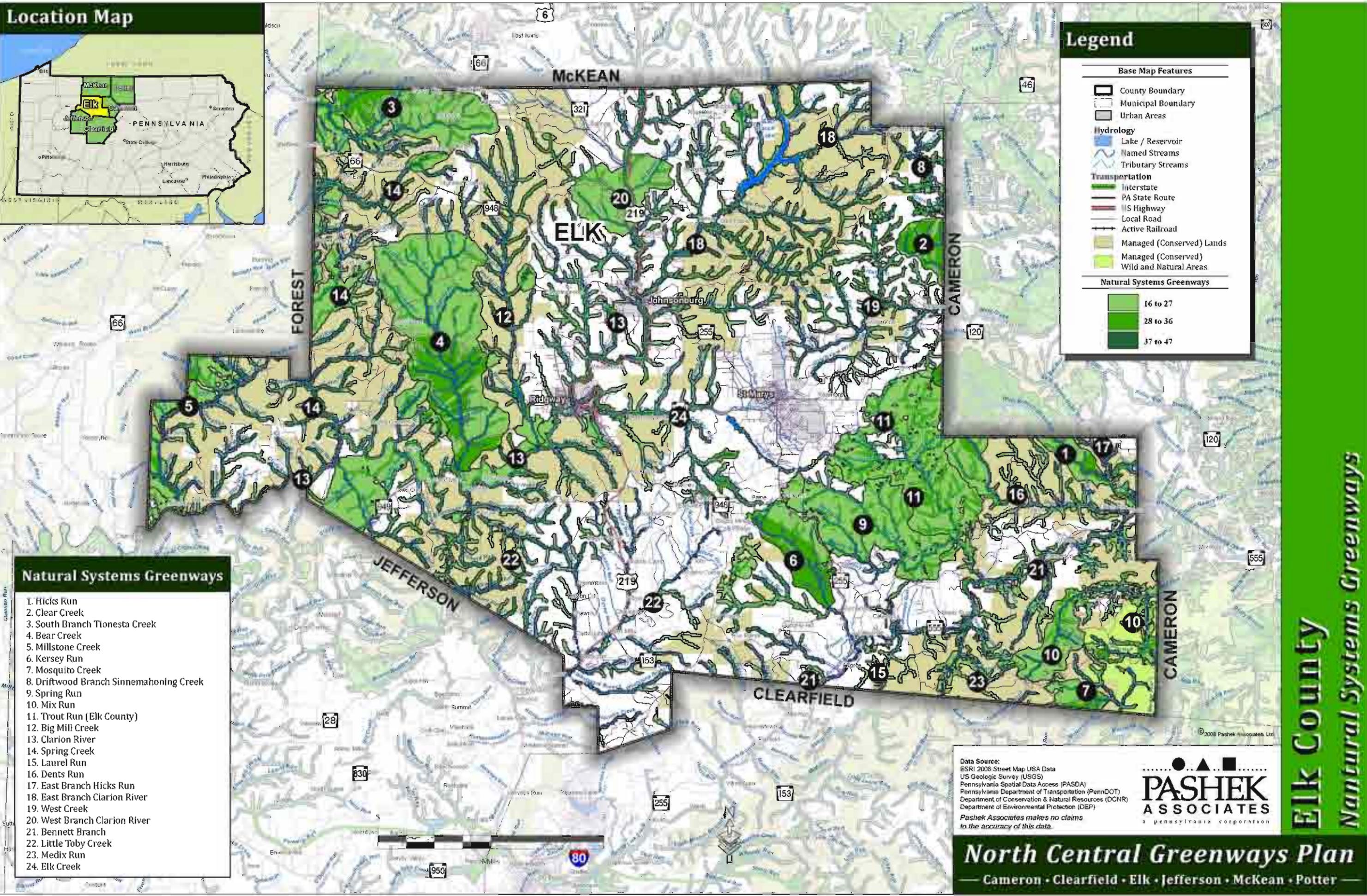
- Managed (Conserved) Lands
- Wild and Natural Areas

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- 16 to 27
- 28 to 36
- 37 to 47

# Natural Systems Greenways

1. Hicks Run
2. Clear Creek
3. South Branch Tionesta Creek
4. Bear Creek
5. Millstone Creek
6. Kersey Run
7. Mosquito Creek
8. Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek
9. Spring Run
10. Mix Run
11. Trout Run (Elk County)
12. Big Mill Creek
13. Clarion River
14. Spring Creek
15. Laurel Run
16. Dents Run
17. East Branch Hicks Run
18. East Branch Clarion River
19. West Creek
20. West Branch Clarion River
21. Bennett Branch
22. Little Toby Creek
23. Medix Run
24. Elk Creek



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims  
 to the accuracy of this data.



# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**Elk County**  
 Natural Systems Greenways



**Elk County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart**

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Rank
Exceptional	1	Hicks Run	33.23	2,909	2,590	89.03%	319	10.97%	Elk State Forest, Pine Tree Trail Nature Area	2	Vital
	2	Clear Creek	28.76	2,851	-	-	2,851	100.00%		3	Vital
Significant	3	South Branch Tionesta Creek	25.57	12,455	10,413	83.60%	2,042	16.40%	Allegheny National Forest	7	Vital
	4	Bear Creek	27.33	22,475	21,835	97.15%	640	2.85%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Land #28	8	Vital
	5	Millstone Creek	25.69	5,883	5,758	97.88%	125	2.12%	Allegheny National Forest	10	Exceptional
	6	Kersey Run	24.91	7,963	1,763	22.14%	6,200	77.86%	Elk State Forest	13	Exceptional
	7	Mosquito Creek	24.43	2,635	2,635	100.00%	-	-	State Game Land #34, Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest	17	Exceptional
	8	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	24.35	2,251	261	11.59%	1,990	88.41%	Elk State Forest	18	Exceptional
	9	Spring Run	23.68	11,371	2,630	23.13%	8,741	76.87%	Elk State Forest	25	Exceptional
10	Mix Run	23.36	7,691	5,026	65.35%	2,665	34.65%	State Game Land #34, Marion Brooks Natural Area, Quehanna Wild Area, Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest	31	Exceptional	
High	11	Trout Run (Elk County)	22.85	15,803	4,225	26.74%	11,578	73.26%	State Game Lands #14 and 311, Elk State Forest	35	Exceptional
	12	Big Mill Creek	22.78	5,962	5,109	85.69%	853	14.31%	Allegheny National Forest	36	Exceptional
	13	Clarion River	22.74	25,410	15,071	59.31%	10,339	40.69%	Allegheny National Forest, Clear Creek State Park, State Game Lands #25 and #44	37	Exceptional
	14	Spring Creek	22.32	11,371	2,630	23.13%	8,741	76.87%	State Game Land #28, Allegheny National Forest	41	Exceptional
	15	Laurel Run	22.20	871	661	75.89%	210	24.11%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest	43	Exceptional
	16	Dents Run	21.27	6,150	5,868	95.41%	282	4.59%	State Game Lands #14 and 311, Elk State Forest	50	Significant
	17	East Branch Hicks Run	21.08	753	637	84.59%	116	15.41%	Elk State Forest	51	Significant
	18	East Branch Clarion River	21.05	13,440	8,586	63.88%	4,854	36.12%	State Game Land #25, Bendingo State Park, Elk State Park, Elk State Forest	52	Significant
	19	West Creek	20.92	7,477	925	12.37%	6,552	87.63%	State Game Lands #25 and #293	57	Significant
	20	West Branch Clarion River	20.18	12,253	718	5.86%	11,535	94.14%	Allegheny National Forest	64	Significant
	21	Bennett Branch	19.93	8,060	3,451	42.82%	4,609	57.18%	Moshannon State Forest, Elk State Forest, State Game Lands #311 and #34	67	Significant
	22	Little Toby Creek	19.42	10,534	4,204	39.91%	6,330	60.09%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Land #44, Elk State Forest	73	Significant
23	Medix Run	17.99	1,898	1,822	96.00%	76	4.00%	State Game Land #34, Moshannon State Forest	86	High	
24	Elk Creek	17.34	6,756	1,546	22.88%	5,210	77.12%	State Game Lands #25 and #44	92	High	
<b>Totals</b>				<b>205,222</b>	<b>108,364</b>	<b>52.80%</b>	<b>96,858</b>	<b>47.20%</b>			



## ELK COUNTY

### *Knox Kane Corridor*

*Project:* Complete feasibility study and implement recommendations for the proposed non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor with potential for motorized use.

*Counties:* Clarion, Elk, Forest, and McKean

*Length:* 70 miles

*Description:* The owner of the proposed Knox Kane Trail corridor has filed for Notice of Interim Trail Use with the U.S. Surface Transportation Board under provisions of the National Trails System Act. This proposed corridor also has multi-modal potential for an excursion / eco-tourism train in addition to the potential for motorized and non-motorized shared use. If feasible, the proposed Knox Kane Trail may provide access to Allegheny National Forest motorized trails in (Russell City, Timberline and Marienville ATV Trails, & ANF Snowmobile Trails), and with the North Country Trail and Kinzua Bridge State Park and associated trails.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this corridor will provide, there are also Natural Systems Greenways associated with it. Within Elk and McKean Counties, the Tionesta, Kinzua Creek, and Cook Forest natural system greenway corridors are found along the Knox Kane corridor.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Kane, Lantz's Corners, and Mount Jewett in McKean County as well as Marienville in Forest County. In addition, hubs are recommended at Russell City and Lamont in Elk County. Also, the trail corridor passes through or near Knox, Shippenville, and Cook Forest State Park in Clarion County.

*Potential Partners:* North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Region Planning and Development Commission, McKean, Elk, Forest and Clarion Counties, Headwaters Charitable Trust, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Kinzua Bridge Foundation, Inc., Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Allegheny National Forest, Mt. Jewett Borough, Kane Borough, PA Route 6 Tourist Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Kovalchick, Inc.

The North Central Regional Planning and Development Corporation and the four counties which the corridor extends through (Clarion, Forest, Elk, & McKean), have successfully applied to and received a grant from the PA DCNR to conduct a feasibility study for this corridor. This feasibility study will determine if the corridor, or portions of the corridor are feasible for trail development, recommend the type of trail uses for the corridor, and recommend a phased plan for implementing the proposed segments of trail which may be deemed feasible. The feasibility process must be an inclusive process, and include adjacent property owners.

### ***West Creek Trail Corridor***

*Project:* Implement the recommendations of the West Creek Trail Master Plan, currently being conducted, for improving the existing West Creek Trail corridor.

*Counties:* Cameron and Elk

*Length:* 10.3 miles in Elk County and 11.6 miles in Cameron County.

*Description:* The West Creek Trail follows the former ALY (PRR), Allegheny & Eastern Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad), corridor that runs from St. Marys, in Elk County, to Emporium, in Cameron County.

This corridor is owned by the West Creek Recreational Trail Association. Currently this trail is open for use. The corridor has been cleared of brush, but the surface is unimproved. Snowmobiles have been using it as a connection between Elk State Forest and Allegheny National Forest.

The next steps for the WCRTA are to apply for a DCNR grant to improve the trail surface, install fencing for safety in several areas, rehabilitate bridges in need of repair, install bollards at crossings to control access, and potentially install sound barriers in the Beechwood area to reduce noise.

The WCRTA also owns a former rail yard within Emporium that they have agreed to allow the borough to develop as a park provided they preserve a corridor through it for the trail.

*Potential Partners:* West Creek Rail Trail Association, PA DCNR, Cameron County, Emporium Borough, Elk County, City of St. Marys, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association.

### ***Bendigo Trail***

*Project:* Evaluate the feasibility of the proposed Bendigo Trail connecting Johnsonburg, Bendigo State Park, and Elk State Park.

*Potential Partners:* Johnsonburg Borough, Johnsonburg Chamber of Commerce, Elk County, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks, PA Wilds Planning Team, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau.

### ***Sinnemahoning Creeks and Branches / Elk Country Corridor***

*Projects:* Complete feasibility studies for the proposed and non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor, proposed hiking trail connections in Sinnemahoning, and proposed water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek and branches.

*Counties:* Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, and Potter

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* The proposed Elk Country Trail follows the former corridor of the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad which connects DuBois in Clearfield County with Driftwood in Cameron County. If completed the Elk Country Trail will provide connections to the Bucktail Path, Quehanna, and Donut Hole Trails.

Explore the feasibility of an interconnected network of water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine how to connect the land based trails to Sinnemahoning Borough and to one another. By making these connections hikers will be able to connect with every major State Forest Hiking Trail in the PA Wilds and beyond. This would make for the largest regional trail connection proposed to date. These corridors also connect with the proposed Norfolk Southern, Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park, and Elk Country rail trail corridors recommended herein.

Other regional assets in this corridor include Sinnemahoning State Park, the Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds Elk Viewing Center, Elk State Forest and Natural Areas as well as the Bucktail Trail and Elk scenic drives.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also situated adjacent to several Natural Systems Greenways including; Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

The City of DuBois and Emporium are proposed as a trail towns within this corridor while Penfield, Benezette, Driftwood, and Sinnemahoning are proposed as major hubs and Sinnemahoning State Park is proposed as a hub.

*Potential Partners:* Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, DuBois, DuBois Revitalization Group, Cameron County, Cameron County Conservation District, Elk County, Elk County Conservation District, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Elk State Forest, Sinnemahoning State Park, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***Emporium to Elk and Pine Tree Trails***

Project: Evaluate the feasibility of the proposed Emporium to Elk and Pine Tree Trails.

Potential Partners: Emporium Borough, Cameron County, Elk County, Allegheny National Forest, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, PA Bureau of Forestry.

### ***Ridgway to Saint Marys Trail***

Project: Evaluate the feasibility of extending the Little Toby Creek Trail from Ridgway to the proposed Wolf Creek Trail in Saint Marys.

Potential Partners: Tri-County Rails to Trails Association, Ridgway Borough, Elk County, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau.

### ***Clarion River, Clarion River West Branch, Clarion River East Branch Water Trail***

Projects: Acquire access easements / property for Water Trail access, expand Clarion River Water Trail map, marketing, promotion to include west and east branches, develop trail town implementation strategies for Johnsonburg and Wilcox.

Potential Partners: Elk County, Johnsonburg, Wilcox, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wilcox, Johnsonburg, Ridgway, local outfitters, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage, Inc..

### ***Ridgway, Saint Marys, and Russell City***

Projects: Develop and implement trail town philosophy for Ridgway, Saint Marys, and Russell City. Evaluate feasibility of Russell City as a Trail Town, at the convergence of proposed Knox Kane Rail Trail, the existing Allegheny National Forest Hiking Trails, the existing Allegheny National Forest Snowmobile Trails, and the existing Allegheny National Forest Timberline and Marienville ATV Trails.

Potential Partners: Ridgway Borough, Saint Marys, Ridgway – Elk County Chamber of Commerce, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Elk County, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Inc., Allegheny National Forest.

### ***Wilcox, Johnsonburg, and Ridgway***

Project: Conduct Trail Town planning, marketing, and implementation strategies for communities along the existing Clarion River Water Trail including: Wilcox, Johnsonburg, and Ridgway Boroughs.

Potential Partners: Wilcox Borough, Johnsonburg Borough, Ridgway Borough, Ridgway – Elk County Chamber of Commerce, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Elk County, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Inc.

***Bennett's Branch Sinnemahoning Creek***

Project: Evaluate potential of establishing water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

Potential Partners: Benezette, Elk County Conservation District, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

***Trout Run Natural Systems Greenway Corridor***

Project: Evaluate opportunities for establishing conservation easements, sustainable forestry practices in the Trout Run watershed.

Potential Partners: City of Saint Marys, North Central Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

***Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek / Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek Natural System Greenway Corridors***

Projects: Implement recommendations of the Sinnemahoning Watershed Conservation Plan. Evaluate opportunities for conservation, and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, streambank improvements, sustainable forest practices, and sustainable land development practices, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for non-point source pollution remediation.

Potential Partners: Elk County Conservation District, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

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## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in Elk County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

### *Elk County's Potential Partners*

Elk Conservation District  
Elk County Courthouse Annex  
300 Center Street  
P.O. Box 448  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
(814) 776-5373  
[www.co.elk.pa.us/conservationdistrict.html](http://www.co.elk.pa.us/conservationdistrict.html)  
[bdippold@countyofelkpa.com](mailto:bdippold@countyofelkpa.com)

#### *Trail Associations*

Cliff Clark  
West Creek Recreational Trail Association  
421 North Broad Street  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814-486-3439  
[wcrt@windstream.net](mailto:wcrt@windstream.net)

#### *Land Trust / Land Owner Associations*

North Central Forest Landowners' Association  
PO Box 141  
Port Allegany, PA 16743  
<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/ncfla>

Seneca Highlands Conservancy  
800 Minard Run Rd.  
Bradford, PA 16701  
(607) 257-6533  
[john@youngbros.com](mailto:john@youngbros.com)

#### *Watershed Associations*

Bennett's Branch Watershed Association  
Jim Moser  
RD 1 Box 82  
Driftwood, PA 15832  
814-546-2091  
[jvmoser8@penn.com](mailto:jvmoser8@penn.com)

Toby Creek Watershed Association  
William Sabatose  
PO Box 247  
Brockway, PA 15824  
814-265-8749  
[analyser@penn.com](mailto:analyser@penn.com)

Elk County Fishermen-Watershed and Habitat Group  
Don Hunt  
HCR1 Box 199A  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
814-776-6831  
[donhunt@ncentral.com](mailto:donhunt@ncentral.com)

Clarion River Municipal Partnership

#### *Sportsmen Clubs*

Rolfe Beagle Club  
St. Marys Sportsmen's Club  
[www.stmaryssportsmen.org](http://www.stmaryssportsmen.org)

Trout Unlimited  
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036  
Allegheny Mountain # 036  
107 Simmons St.  
DuBois PA 15801  
[www.amctu.org](http://www.amctu.org)  
[maksak@comcast.net](mailto:maksak@comcast.net)

#### *Snowmobile Clubs*

St. Mary's Area Snowmobile Association  
P.O. Box 505  
St. Marys, PA 15857  
814-834-4304  
[www.smsnowmobile.com](http://www.smsnowmobile.com)  
[info@smsnowmobile.com](mailto:info@smsnowmobile.com)

Hilltop Howlers  
PO Box 169  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-583-7030

Love's Canoe Rentals and Sales  
3 Main Street  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
814-776-6285  
dlove@ncentral.com

Historical Society of St. Marys & Benzinger  
Township  
99 Erie Avenue  
St. Marys, PA 15857  
814-834-6525  
www.smhistoricalsociety.com  
stmaryshistoricalociety@windstream.net

*Visitors Bureaus / Chambers of Commerce*

NW PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau  
175 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-5197  
www.visitpago.com  
info@visitpago.com

Johnsonburg Chamber of Commerce  
501 High Street  
Johnsonburg, PA 15901  
814-965-4793

Ridgway-Elk County Chamber of Commerce  
159 Main Street  
PO Box 357  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
814-776-1424  
www.ridgwaychamber.com

*Healthcare*

Elk Regional Health System  
www.elkregional.org

*Historical Societies / Associations*

Elk County Historical Society  
109 Center Street  
P.O. Box 361  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
(814) 776-1032  
www.elkcountyhistoricalsociety.org  
elkctyhistoricalsociety@windstream.net

## **JEFFERSON COUNTY PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



*Clarion Little Toby Trail, Jefferson County*



*Farmer's Inn, Jefferson County*



*Walter Dick Memorial Park, Jefferson County*

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## JEFFERSON COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for Jefferson County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## JEFFERSON COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within Jefferson County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 10 existing trail corridors
- 11 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 1 existing water trail
- 5 proposed water trail opportunities
- 6 proposed trail towns
- 1 major hubs
- 8 hubs

Jefferson County's Existing Trail Corridors

Jefferson County's Existing Trail Corridors	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Clarion - Little Toby Creek Trail	X	X		X					
Mahoning Shadow Trail	X	X		X					
Baker Trail	X								
Wolf Creek Trail	X								
Tadler Run Trail	X								
Hunter Trail	X								
Bear Town Rocks Trail	X								
Clear Creek Trail	X								
Trap Run Trail	X								
Boundary Trail	X								
Pipeline Trail	X								

**Jefferson County's Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors**

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- **Conceptual:** Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- **Proposed:** Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

Jefferson's County Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Corridors Greenway Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Jefferson County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle		
Redbank Creek Trail	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	10	53	2	1	Exceptional	X	X		X							
Mahoning Shadow Trail Extension	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	4	4	10	51	8	2		X	X		X							
Brockway to Brookville Trail	3	2	1	4	5	4	4	3	4	10	40	9	3		X	X		X							
Piney Branch Trail	3	5	1	2	5	3	3	1	2	10	35	12	4	Significant	X	X		X							
Pittsburgh Southern Railroad Corridor Trail	3	1	1	3	5	3	4	2	3	10	35	12	5		X	X		X							
Little Toby Trail Extension	3	1	4	3	1	4	3	2	3	10	34	13	6		X	X		X							
Falls Creek to Punxsutawney Trail	3	1	1	3	0	3	3	2	4	10	30	16	7		X	X	X	X							
Brookville Railway Line Trail	1	3	1	2	2	2	3	1	1	10	26	20	8	High	X	X		X							
Brockway to St. Marys Trail	3	1	1	2	1	4	3	2	1	10	28	28	9		X	X		X							
Clarion to Jefferson Trail Extension	3	1	1	2	1	4	3	2	1	0	18	28	10												
Great Shamokin Path Trail	5	1	1	2	0	2	3	2	1	0	17	34	11		X										

*Jefferson County's Potential Water Trails*

Jefferson County's Potential Water Trails	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Jefferson County Ranking	Priority
Redbank Creek	5	3	3	3	1	1	10	26	1	<b>Exceptional</b>
Sandy Lick Creek	3	3	3	3	1	1	10	24	2	
Little Toby Creek	3	3	1	3	1	2	10	23	3	
Mahoning Creek	2	2	1	3	1	1	10	20	4	
Redbank Creek, North Fork	3	1	1	3	1	1	10	20	4	

*Jefferson County's Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs*

- Brookville .....Trail Town
- Brockway .....Trail Town
- Falls Creek .....Trail Town
- Punxsutawney .....Trail Town
- Reynoldsville .....Trail Town
- Summerville.....Trail Town
- Sykesville.....Major Hub
- Cook Forest State Park.....Hub
- Clear Creek State Park.....Hub
- Campers Paradise.....Hub
- Farmers Inn .....Hub
- Kyle Lake.....Hub
- Cloe Lake.....Hub
- Reynlow Park.....Hub
- Beartown Rocks.....Hub

# Location Map

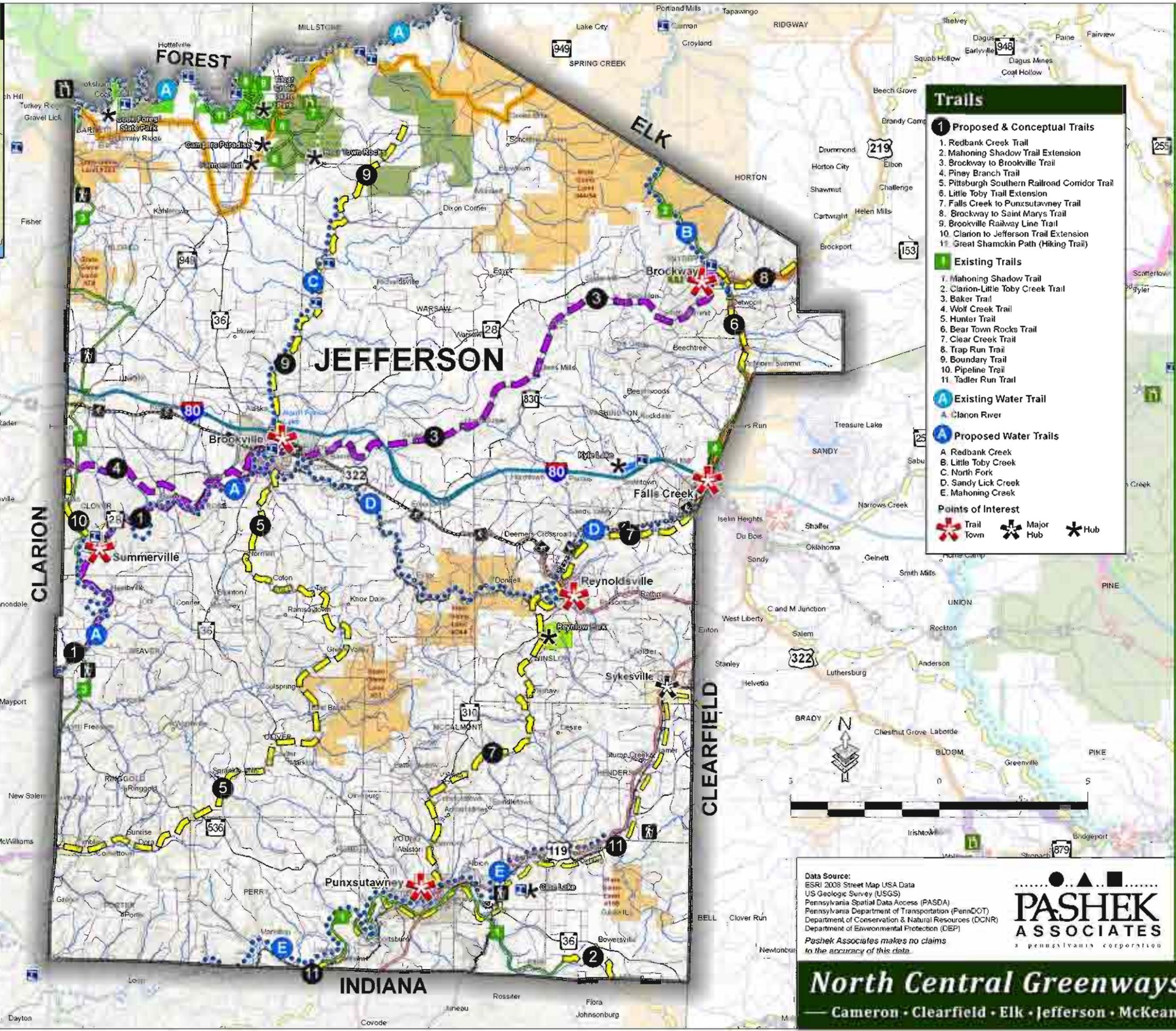


## Legend

- Base Map Features**
  - County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
  - Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
  - Interstate
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
- DCNR Managed Land**
  - State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
  - Hiking
    - Existing
    - Proposed
    - Conceptual
  - Water Trail
    - Existing Water Trail
    - Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Potential Scenic Corridors
  - Designated Scenic Vista
  - Potential Scenic Vista
  - Bicycle PA Route

## Trails

- 1 Proposed & Conceptual Trails**
  1. Redbank Creek Trail
  2. Mahoning Shadow Trail Extension
  3. Brockway to Brookville Trail
  4. Piney Branch Trail
  5. Pittsburgh Southern Railroad Corridor Trail
  6. Little Toby Trail Extension
  7. Falls Creek to Punxsutawney Trail
  8. Brockway to Saint Marys Trail
  9. Brookville Railway Line Trail
  10. Clarion to Jefferson Trail Extension
  11. Great Shamokin Path (Hiking Trail)
- Existing Trails**
  1. Mahoning Shadow Trail
  2. Clarion-Little Toby Creek Trail
  3. Baker Trail
  4. Wolf Creek Trail
  5. Hunter Trail
  6. Bear Town Rocks Trail
  7. Clear Creek Trail
  8. Trap Run Trail
  9. Boundary Trail
  10. Pipeline Trail
  11. Tadler Run Trail
- Existing Water Trail**
  - A. Clarion River
- Proposed Water Trails**
  - A. Redbank Creek
  - B. Little Toby Creek
  - C. North Fork
  - D. Sandy Lick Creek
  - E. Mahoning Creek
- Points of Interest**
  - Trail Town
  - Major Hub
  - Hub



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.



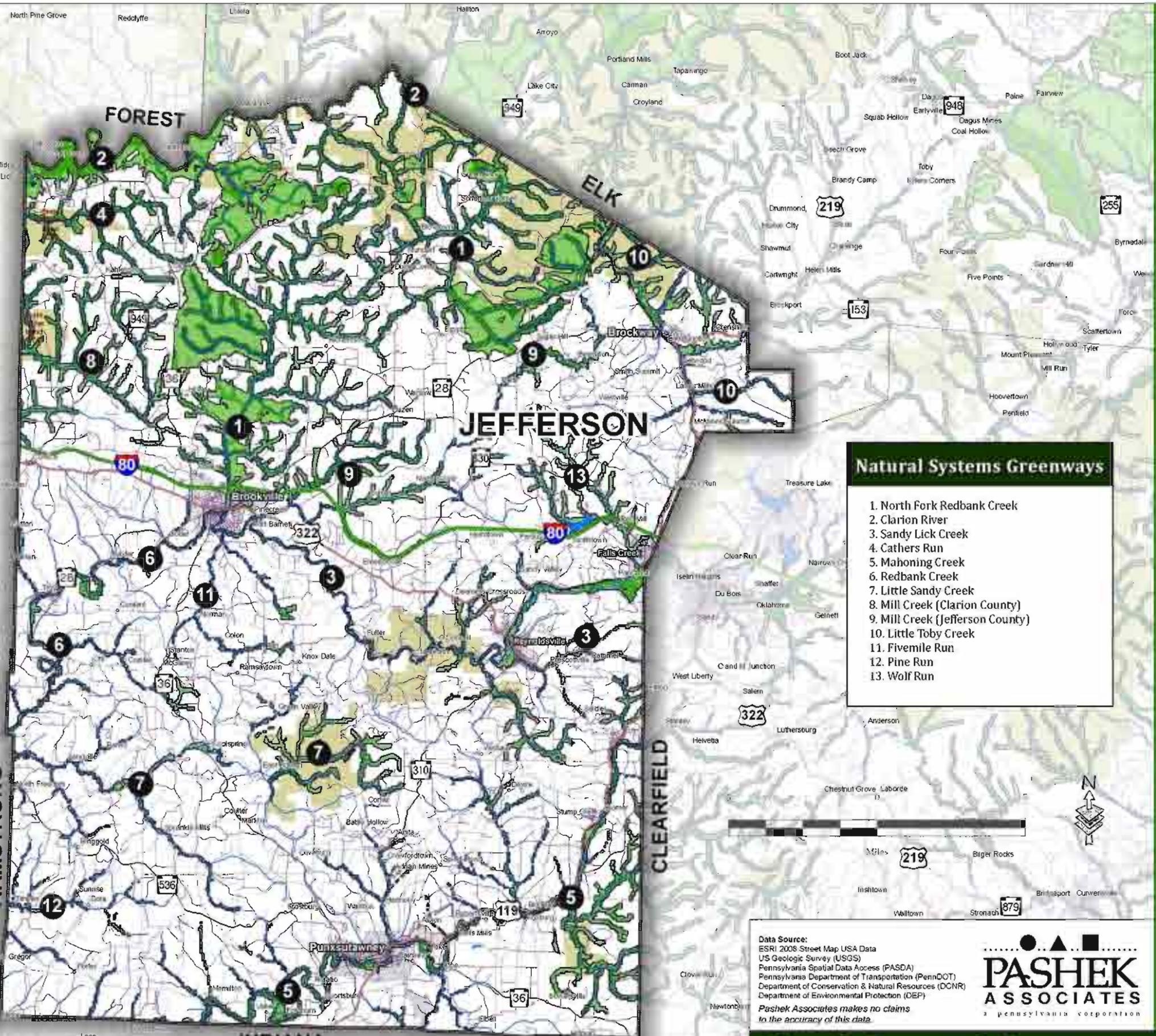
# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**Jefferson County**  
 Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

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# Location Map



### Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

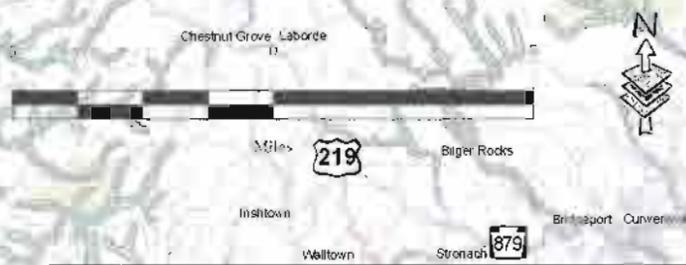
- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad
- Managed (Conserved) Lands

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- 16 to 27
- 28 to 36
- 37 to 47

### Natural Systems Greenways

- 1 North Fork Redbank Creek
- 2 Clarion River
- 3 Sandy Lick Creek
- 4 Cathers Run
- 5 Mahoning Creek
- 6 Redbank Creek
- 7 Little Sandy Creek
- 8 Mill Creek (Clarion County)
- 9 Mill Creek (Jefferson County)
- 10 Little Toby Creek
- 11 Fivemile Run
- 12 Pine Run
- 13 Wolf Run



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
 a pennsylvania corporation

**Jefferson County**  
*Natural Systems Greenways*



**Jefferson County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart**

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Rank
Exceptional	1	North Fork Redbank Creek	25.81	24,126	5,975	24.77%	18,151	75.23%	State Game Land #54, Clear Creek State Forest	9	Exceptional
	2	Clarion River	22.74	12,641	9,321	73.74%	3,320	26.26%	Allegheny National Forest, State Game Lands, #283, #54, and #45, Clear Creek State Forest, Cook Forest State Park, Clear Creek State Park	37	Exceptional
Significant	3	Sandy Lick Creek	21.03	4,504	646	14.34%	3,858	85.66%	State Game Land #244, Reynlow Park	53	Significant
	4	Cathers Run	21.02	2,270	632	27.84%	1,638	72.16%	State Game Land #283	54	Significant
	5	Mahoning Creek	20.67	8,412	511	6.07%	7,901	93.93%	State Game Land #195	60	Significant
	6	Redbank Creek	20.33	2,098	-	-	2,098	100.00%		63	Significant
	7	Little Sandy Creek	19.61	3,416	1,133	33.17%	2,283	66.83%	State Game Land #31	69	Significant
	8	Mill Creek (Clarion County)	19.60	4,049	578	14.28%	3,471	85.72%	State Game Land #74	70	Significant
	9	Mill Creek (Jefferson County)	19.51	3,588	-	-	3,588	100.00%		71	Significant
10	Little Toby Creek	19.42	3,920	1,503	38.34%	2,417	61.66%	State Game Lands #54 and #77	73	Significant	
High	11	Fivemile Run	18.64	638	-	-	638	100.00%		80	High
	12	Pine Run	18.05	550	-	-	550	100.00%		85	High
	13	Wolf Run	15.86	2,235	-	-	2,235	100.00%		102	High
<b>Totals</b>				<b>72,447</b>	<b>20,299</b>	<b>28.02%</b>	<b>33,997</b>				



## JEFFERSON COUNTY

### ***Redbank Creek and Brookville to Brockway Corridors***

*Projects:* Prepare master plan & phasing plan and implement recommendations for land and water trail improvements in the Redbank Creek Trail. Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunity for water quality and stream bank stabilization improvement projects along Redbank Creek and North Fork Redbank Creek.

*Counties:* Clarion and Jefferson

*Length:* 58.7 miles

*Description:* This proposed non-motorized shared use trail can connect to the existing Allegheny River Trail (Erie to Pittsburgh Trail) to the west and the existing Clarion / Little Toby Rail to Trail to the east. From Brockway, a proposed extension to the Little Toby Trail has potential to extend the trail into Falls Creek and eventually on to DuBois where a proposed trail could extend the corridor through the Anderson Creek Gorge to Curwensville, connecting with the existing Clearfield-Grampian Rail Trail. The proposed Redbank Creek Trail would also connect with the existing Baker Hiking Trail near Summerville.

We also recommend the proposed water trail along Redbank Creek from Brookville down to the confluence with the Allegheny River, south of East Brady, within this corridor. The proposed water trail would also connect to the proposed water trails along North Fork Redbank Creek, Sandy Lick Creek, and Little Toby Creek.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also located along several Natural systems greenway corridors in Jefferson County including; Redbank Creek, North Fork Redbank Creek, Mill Creek, and Little Toby Creek.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Brockway, Brookville, and Summerville in Jefferson County as well as New Bethlehem in Clarion County.

*Potential Partners:* Brookville, Brockway, Summerville, New Bethlehem (Clarion County) Redbank Valley Trails Association, Redbank Creek Watershed Association, North Fork Conservancy, North Fork Watershed Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Regional Planning and Development Commission, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Headwaters Charitable Trust.

### ***DuBois to Falls Creek Trail***

*Project:* Develop and improve the DuBois to Falls Creek Trail following the recommendations of the Sandy Lick Creek Recreation Area Master Plan.

Potential Partners: DuBois, Falls Creek, Tri-County Trails Association, Greater DuBois Chamber of Commerce, DuBois Revitalization Group, Sandy Lick Conservation Initiative, Jefferson County, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Clearfield County Conservation and Recreation Authority.

***Brookville, Brockway, and Summerville Boroughs***

Project: Develop recommendations for trail town (land and water trails) implementation strategies.

Potential Partners: Brookville, Brockway, Summerville, Brookville Chamber of Commerce, Redbank Valley Trails Association, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Recreation, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region, Inc.

***North Fork Redbank Creek and Redbank Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridors***

Project: Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunity for water quality and stream bank stabilization improvement projects along North Fork Redbank Creek and along Redbank Creek.

Potential Partners: Jefferson County, Jefferson County Conservation District, North Fork Conservancy, North Fork Watershed Association, Redbank Creek Watershed Association, municipalities, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, North Fork Conservancy, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

***Clarion River Natural Systems Greenway Corridor***

Project: Evaluate opportunities for establishing conservation easements, sustainable forestry and agricultural practices, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvement projects such as acid mine drainage and non-point source pollution remediation in the Clarion River Watershed.

Potential Partners: Jefferson County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Clarion River Municipal Partnership, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in Jefferson County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

### *Jefferson County's Potential Partners*

Jefferson Conservation District  
1514 Route 28  
Brookville, PA 15825  
(814) 849-7463  
www.jeffersonconservation.com  
jccd@windstream.net

Reynlow Park Authority  
Main Street  
Reynoldsville, PA  
(814) 653-8270

#### *Trail Associations*

Tri-County Rails to Trails Association  
PO Box 115  
Ridgway PA 15853  
Paul Boboige  
814-371-4276  
pboboige@yahoo.net

#### *Land Trust / Land Owner Associations*

Mr. Gary Gilmore  
Clearfield - Jefferson Counties Forest Stewardship  
Committee  
1514 Rt. 28  
Brookville, PA 15825  
ggilmore@state.pa.us

NorthFork Conservancy  
Waterplant Rd.  
Brookville, PA 15825  
(814) 849-5260  
prkwrk@penn.com  
www.homestead.com/northforkconservancy

#### *Watershed Associations*

North Fork Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 265  
Brookville, PA 15825  
www.nfwatershed.org

Sandy Lick Creek Watershed Initiative  
Redbank Creek Watershed Association

Toby Creek Watershed Association  
William Sabatose  
PO Box 247  
Brockway, PA 15824  
814-265-8749  
analyser@penn.com

Mill Creek Coalition of Clarion and Jefferson  
Counties  
Peter Dalby, PhD; Terry Morrow  
6 E. 8th Avenue  
Clarion, PA 16214  
814 226-2164

Clarion River Municipal Partnership

#### *Sportsmen Clubs*

Perry Township Sportsmen  
Pine Grove Sportsmen  
Sigel Sportsmen's Club  
www.sigelsportsmenclub.com

Warsaw Sportsman's Club

Trout Unlimited  
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036  
Allegheny Mountain # 036  
107 Simmons St.  
DuBois, PA 15801  
www.amctu.org  
maksak@comcast.net

*Visitors Bureaus/ Chambers of Commerce*

NW PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau  
175 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-5197  
www.visitpago.com  
info@visitpago.com

Brockway Chamber of Commerce  
33 N. Brady Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-5010  
www.duboispatchamber.com

Brookville Chamber of Commerce  
175 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-8448  
www.brookvillechamber.com

Greater DuBois Chamber of Commerce  
33 N. Brady Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-5010  
www.duboispatchamber.com

Punxsutawney Chamber of Commerce  
124 W. Mahoning Street  
Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
814-938-7700  
www.punxsutawney.com

*Healthcare*

Brookville Hospital  
100 Hospital Road  
Brookville, PA 15825  
(814) 849-2312  
www.brookvillehospital.org

Punxsutawney Area Hospital  
81 Hillcrest Drive  
Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
(814) 938-1800  
www.pah.org

*Historical Societies / Associations*

Jefferson County Historical Society  
172 East Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825-1234  
(814) 849-0077

Taylor Memorial Museum  
765 Park Street  
PO Box 73  
Brockway, PA 15824  
814-265-8519  
<http://brockwayhistory.org>  
brockwayhistory@windstream.net

Punxsutawney Area Historical and Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 286  
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

## **MCKEAN COUNTY PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



*Kinzua Valley Trail, McKean County*



*Marilla Bridges Trail, McKean County*



*Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, McKean County*



*Kinzua Bridge State Park, McKean County*



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## MCKEAN COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for McKean County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## McKEAN COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within McKean County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either follow a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 30 existing trail corridors
- 2 designated scenic byways
- 25 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 3 proposed scenic byways
- 3 proposed water trail opportunities
- 6 proposed trail towns
- 3 major hubs
- 7 hubs

McKean County's Existing Trail Corridors

McKean County's Existing Trail Corridors	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
North Country Trail	X								
Longhouse Interpretive Trail	X				X				
Morrison Trail	X								
Johnny Cake Trail	X								
Tracey Ridge Trail	X								
Land of Many Uses Interpretive Trail	X				X				
Willow Creek ATV Trail						X		X	
Hidden Valley Passage	X								
Indian Pipe Trail	X	X							
Marilla Bridges Loop Trail	X	X							
White Pine Trail	X								
Marilla Springs Trail	X								
Timberdoodle Flats Trail	X			X					
Westline Trail	X	X		X					
Kinzua Valley Trail	X								
Devil's Den Trail	X								
Shawmut Trail	X	X	X	X			X		
Clermont Trail	X	X	X	X			X		
Kane to Mt. Jewett Trail via ANF							X		
Bradford Bordell & Kinzua Railroad Grade Trail	X	X	X	X					
Wolfinger Town Trail System	X	X	X						
Pennsy Grade Trail	X	X	X	X					
Majestic ATV Trails						X		X	
Crook Farm Trail	X	X							
Community Parks Trail	X	X							
Richard E. McDowell Community Trail	X	X							
Emery-Blaisdell Trail	X	X							
Thunder Shower Surprise	X	X							
State Game Lands No. 30 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					
State Game Lands No. 61 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					
State Game Lands No. 62 Designated Use Trails	X		X	X					

McKean County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Greenway Corridors

McKean County's Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Corridors Greenway Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	McKean County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle		
	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	55	1	1	Exceptional	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			
Knox and Kane Trail	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	55	1	1	Exceptional	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			
Emery-Blaisdell Trail Extension	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	3	3	10	50	4	2		X	X		X							
Kinzua Valley Trail	3	5	5	4	5	5	3	3	2	10	45	5	3		X	X									
Bullis Camp Trail	4	2	1	3	5	5	3	5	3	10	41	8	4		X	X	X	X							
Smethport to Duke Center	3	4	0	5	0	4	5	5	5	10	41	8	5		X	X		X	X			X			
Bradford to Rew Trail	3	2	0	3	0	4	3	4	3	10	32	14	6		X	X		X	X			X			
Stage Coach Trail	1	3	2	2	2	5	3	1	3	10	32	14	7		X		X	X							
Shawmut Trail	3	4	0	3	0	3	3	3	3	10	32	14	8		X	X	X	X			X				
Mill Street Railroad Corridor Trail	1	5	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	10	32	14	9	Significant	X	X									
Refinery Trail	1	5	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	10	32	14	10		X	X									
Downtown Trail	1	5	0	2	2	2	2	3	3	10	30	16	11		X	X									
McKean to Kinzua Bridge State Park Trail	1	4	1	2	0	3	3	2	1	10	27	19	12		X	X	X	X							
Port Allegheny to Coudersport Trail	3	0	1	2	1	3	3	1	3	10	27	19	13		X	X		X	X			X			
Hefner Reservoir/Marshburg Trail	3	5	1	3	2	4	3	2	1	0	24	22	14		X	X									
Collins Pine Trail	3	0	1	2	0	3	2	1	1	10	23	23	15		X	X									
Mount Jewett, Kinzua, and Ritterville Railroad Trail	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	10	20	26	16		X	X	X	X							
Pennsy Trail Ext South	5	3	1	2	0	1	3	2	2	0	19	27	17		X	X	X	X				X			
Pennsy Trail Ext North	5	3	1	2	0	1	3	2	2	0	19	27	18		X	X	X	X				X			
Latchaw Creek Trail	1	5	0	1	5	1	1	2	1	0	17	29	19	High	X										
Custer City Loop Trail	1	5	1	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	15	31	20		X	X									
Smethport to Mount Jewett Trail	3	0	1	2	0	3	3	1	2	0	15	31	21		X	X	X	X							
Kinzua Creek & Kane Trail	1	3	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	0	14	30	22		X	X	X	X							
Kendall Creek Watershed Trail	1	5	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	10	29	17	23		X	X		X							
New York PA Railroad Trail	3	1	1	1	0	2	2	2	1	0	13	33	24		X	X		X							
Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor Trail	5	1	0	3	3	4	4	2	3	0	25	21	25		X	X		X							

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**McKean County Potential Water Trails**

McKean County Potential Water Trails	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	McKean County Ranking	Priority
Upper Allegheny River	5	3	5	5	1	3	10	32	1	Exceptional
Tunungwant Creek	0	3	1	5	1	1	10	21	2	Significant
Potato Creek	3	3	5	5	1	1	0	18	3	

**McKean County Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs**

- Bradford ..... Trail Town
- Kane ..... Trail Town
- Mt. Jewett ..... Trail Town
- Smethport ..... Trail Town
- Eldred ..... Major Hub
- Port Allegany ..... Trail Town
- ANF / Kinzua Reservoir Facilities at Willow Bay ..... Hub
- Kinzua Bridge State Park ..... Hub
- McKean County Complex ..... Hub
- Hamlin Lake ..... Hub
- Westline ..... Major Hub
- University of Pittsburgh – Bradford ..... Major Hub
- Majestic Trails Resort ..... Hub
- Lantz's Corners ..... Trail Town
- ANF Ranger Station S.R. 321 ..... Hub

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# Location Map

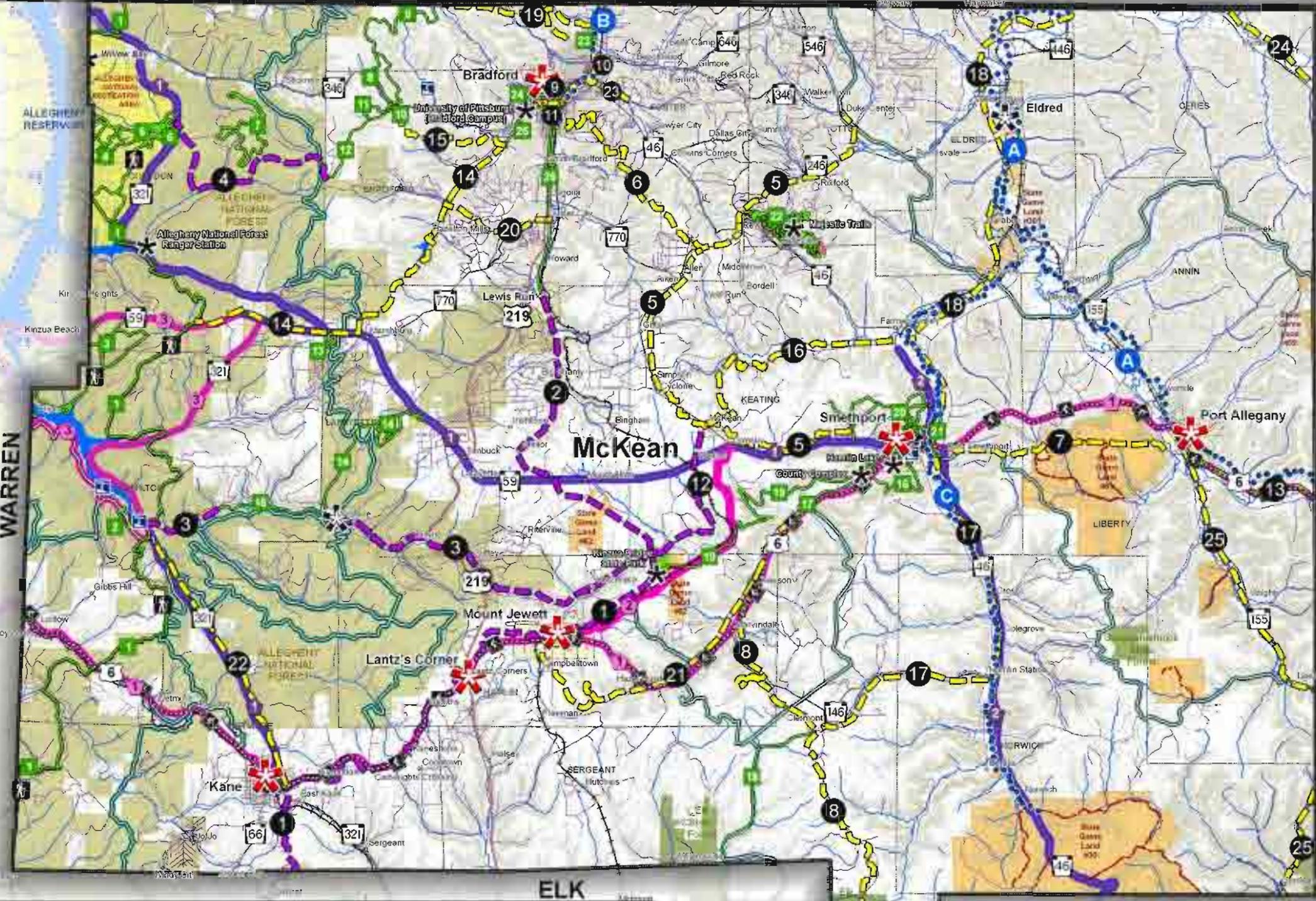


## Legend

- Base Map Features**
- County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Borough
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
- Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
- PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
- DCNR Managed Land**
- State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
  - Allegheny National Forest
  - National Recreation Area
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
- Hiking
    - Existing
    - Existing State Game Land Trail
    - Existing Snowmobile
    - Proposed
    - Under Construction
    - Conceptual
  - Bicycle PA Route
  - Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Existing Scenic Byway
  - Proposed Scenic Byway

## Trails

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Proposed &amp; Conceptual Trails</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knox and Kane Trail</li> <li>Emery-Blaisdell Trail Extension</li> <li>Kinzua Valley Trail</li> <li>Bullis Camp Trail</li> <li>Smethport to Duke Center</li> <li>Bradford to Rew Trail</li> <li>Stage Coach Trail</li> <li>Shawmut Trail</li> <li>Mill Street Railroad Corridor Trail</li> <li>Refinery Trail</li> <li>Downtown Trail</li> <li>McKean to Kinzua Bridge S P Trail</li> <li>Port Allegany to Coudersport Trail</li> <li>Helner Reservoir/Marshburg Trail</li> <li>Collins Pine Trail</li> </ol> | <p><b>2 Existing Trails</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Country Trail</li> <li>Longhouse Interpretive Trail</li> <li>Morrison Trail</li> <li>Johnny Cake Trail</li> <li>Tracey Ridge Trail</li> <li>Land of Many Uses Interpretive Trail</li> <li>Willow Creek ATV Trail</li> <li>Hidden Valley Passage</li> <li>Indian Pipe Trail</li> <li>Manilla Bridges Loop Trail</li> <li>White Pine Trail</li> <li>Marilla Springs Trail</li> <li>Timberdoodle Flats</li> <li>Westline Trail</li> <li>Kinzua Valley Trail</li> </ol> | <p><b>3 Designated Scenic Byways</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>US Route 6 - Scenic Highway - National Recreational Trail</li> <li>Kinzua Bridge Byway</li> <li>Longhouse Scenic Byway</li> </ol> <p><b>4 Proposed Scenic Byways</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allegheny Forest Trail Byway</li> <li>SR Route 46 Emporium to Smethport Byway</li> </ol> <p><b>5 Proposed Water Trails</b></p> <p>A Upper Allegheny River<br/>             B Tunungwant Creek<br/>             C Potato Creek</p> <p><b>6 Points of Interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trail Town</li> <li>Major Hub</li> <li>Hub</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
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# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**McKean County**  
 Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

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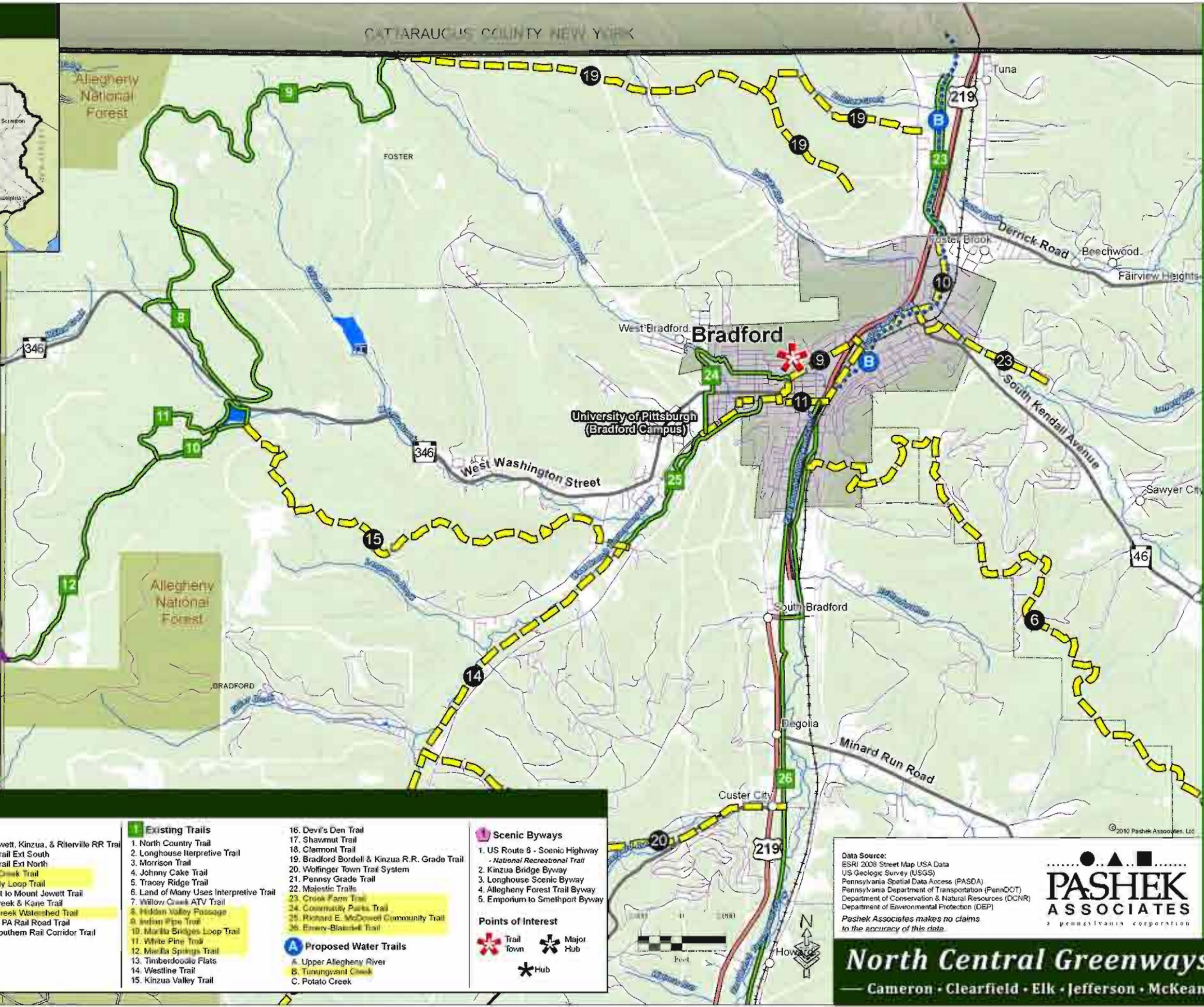
# Location Map



CATTARAUGUS COUNTY NEW YORK

## Legend

- Base Map Features**
  - County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Borough
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
  - Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
- DCNR Managed Land**
  - State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
  - Allegheny National Forest
  - National Recreation Area
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
  - Hiking
    - Existing
    - Proposed
    - Under Construction
    - Conceptual
  - Bicycle PA Route
  - Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Scenic Byway



- ### Trails
- | Proposed & Conceptual Trails             | Existing Trails                         |
|--|---|
| 1. Knox and Kane Trail                   | 1. North Country Trail                  |
| 2. Emery-Blaisdell Trail Extension       | 2. Longhouse Interpretive Trail         |
| 3. Kinzua Valley Trail                   | 3. Morrison Trail                       |
| 4. Bradford, Bordell, & Kinzua Trail Ext | 4. Johnny Cake Trail                    |
| 5. Smethport to Duke Center Trail        | 5. Tracey Ridge Trail                   |
| 6. Bradford to Port Trail                | 6. Land of Many Uses Interpretive Trail |
| 7. Stage Coach Trail                     | 7. Willow Creek ATV Trail               |
| 8. Shawmut Trail                         | 8. Hidden Valley Passage                |
| 9. MN Street Rail Road Corridor Trail    | 9. Indian Pipe Trail                    |
| 10. Refinery Trail                       | 10. Marilla Bridges Loop Trail          |
| 11. Downtown Trail                       | 11. White Pine Trail                    |
| 12. McKean to Kinzua Bridge S.P. Trail   | 12. Marilla Springs Trail               |
| 13. Port Allegany to Coudersport Trail   | 13. Timberdoodle Flats                  |
| 14. Hefner Run/Marshburg Trail           | 14. Westline Trail                      |
| 15. Collins Pine Trail                   | 15. Kinzua Valley Trail                 |

- | Existing Trails                                | Proposed Water Trails    |
|--|--------------------------|
| 16. Devil's Den Trail                          | A. Upper Allegheny River |
| 17. Shawmut Trail                              | B. Turnungwant Creek     |
| 18. Clermont Trail                             | C. Potato Creek          |
| 19. Bradford Bordell & Kinzua R.R. Grade Trail |                          |
| 20. Wolfinger Town Trail System                |                          |
| 21. Pennsy Grade Trail                         |                          |
| 22. Majestic Trails                            |                          |
| 23. Creek Farm Trail                           |                          |
| 24. Community Parks Trail                      |                          |
| 25. Richard E. McDowell Community Trail        |                          |
| 26. Emery-Blaisdell Trail                      |                          |

- ### Scenic Byways
- US Route 6 - Scenic Highway - National Recreational Trail
  - Kinzua Bridge Byway
  - Longhouse Scenic Byway
  - Allegheny Forest Trail Byway
  - Emporium to Smethport Byway
- ### Points of Interest
- Trail Town
  - Major Hub
  - Hub

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.

# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**McKean County - Bradford Enlargement**  
**Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways**



# Location Map

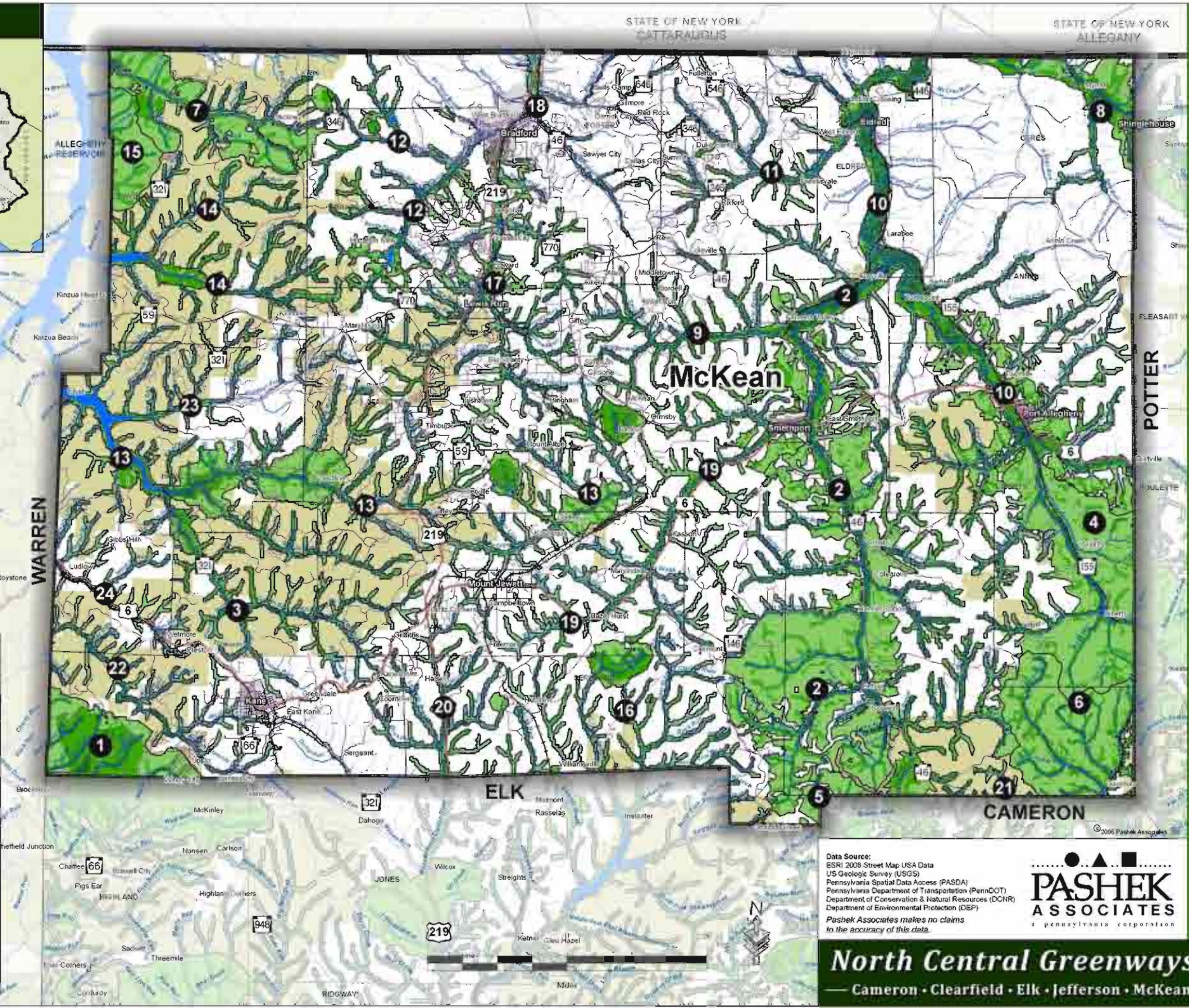


## Legend

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  - Municipal Boundary
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- Hydrology**
- Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
- Interstate
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
  - Managed (Conserved) Lands
- Natural Systems Greenways**
- 16 to 27
  - 28 to 36
  - 37 to 47

## Natural Systems Greenways

1. South Branch Tionesta Creek
2. Potato Creek
3. South Branch Kinzua Creek
4. Allegheny Portage Creek
5. Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek
6. Sinnemahoning Portage Creek
7. Willow Creek
8. Oswayo Creek
9. Cole Creek
10. Allegheny River
11. Knapp Creek
12. West Branch Tunungwant Creek
13. Kinzua Creek
14. Sugar Run
15. Roper Hollow (Allegheny River)
16. East Branch Clarion River
17. East Branch Tunungwant Creek
18. Tunungwant Creek
19. Marvin Creek
20. West Branch Clarion River
21. North Creek
22. East Branch Tionesta Creek
23. Chappel Fork
24. Twomile Run



Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
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 Pashek Associates makes no claims  
 to the accuracy of this data.



# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

**McKean County**  
*Natural Systems Greenways*



**McKean County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart**

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Rank
Exceptional	1	South Branch Tionesta Creek	27.57	6,484	5,581	86.07%	903	13.93%	Allegheny National Forest	7	Vital
	2	Potato Creek	25.64	44,494	5,196	11.68%	39,298	88.32%	State Game Lands #301 and #30, Elk State Forest	11	Exceptional
	3	South Branch Kinzua Creek	24.90	5,731	4,104	71.61%	1,627	28.39%	Allegheny National Forest	14	Exceptional
	4	Allegheny Portage Creek	24.65	18,030	1,429	7.93%	16,601	92.07%	State Game Land #61, Susquehannock State Forest	15	Exceptional
	5	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	24.35	1,681	492	29.27%	1,189	70.73%	State Game Land #30	18	Exceptional
Significant	6	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek	23.86	11,467	325	2.83%	11,142	97.17%	State Game Land #30, Elk State Forest	20	Exceptional
	7	Willow Creek	23.75	9,101	6,995	76.86%	2,106	23.14%	Allegheny National Forest	21	Exceptional
	8	Oswayo Creek	23.39	5,629	-	-	5,629	100.00%		28	Exceptional
	9	Cole Creek	23.37	5,295	-	-	5,295	100.00%		29	Exceptional
	10	Allegheny River	23.33	23,558	3,591	15.24%	19,967	84.76%	State Game Lands #61 and #301	32	Exceptional
	11	Knapp Creek	23.05	3,942	-	-	3,942	100.00%		34	Exceptional
	12	West Branch Tunungwant Creek	22.67	6,082	452	7.43%	5,630	92.57%	Allegheny National Forest	38	Exceptional
	13	Kinzua Creek	22.42	24,485	13,183	53.84%	11,302	46.16%	Allegheny National Forest, Kinzua Bridge State Park	40	Exceptional
	14	Sugar Run	22.31	6,819	6,423	94.19%	396	5.81%	Allegheny National Forest	42	Exceptional
	15	Roper Hollow (Allegheny River)	22.15	3,363	3,363	100.00%	-	-	Allegheny National Forest	44	Exceptional
	16	East Branch Clarion River	21.05	6,971	647	9.28%	6,324	90.72%	Elk State Forest, Elk State Park	52	Significant
High	17	East Branch Tunungwant Creek	20.83	10,776	1,946	18.06%	8,830	81.94%	Allegheny National Forest	58	Significant
	18	Tunungwant Creek	20.56	1,653	-	-	1,653	100.00%		61	Significant
	19	Marvin Creek	20.18	10,564	101	0.96%	10,463	99.04%	State Game Land #62, Kinzua Bridge State Park	62	Significant
	20	West Branch Clarion River	20.18	4,952	-	-	4,952	100.00%		64	Significant
	21	North Creek	19.28	448	446	99.55%	2	0.45%	State Game Land #30, Elk State Forest	75	Significant
	22	East Branch Tionesta Creek	18.98	6,971	647	9.28%	6,324	90.72%	Elk State Forest	76	Significant
	23	Chappel Fork	18.55	3,030	2,308	76.17%	722	23.83%	Allegheny National Forest	82	High
	24	Twomile Run	16.05	2,505	1,093	43.63%	1,412	56.37%	Allegheny National Forest	100	High
<b>Totals</b>				<b>224,031</b>	<b>58,322</b>	<b>26.03%</b>	<b>165,709</b>	<b>73.97%</b>			



## McKEAN COUNTY

### **Marketing and Promotion**

*Project:* Officially adopt the brand “Trail Central”, and market and promote McKean County as Trail Central due to the geographic location, current and projected outdoor recreation opportunities, and current and future trail connections and expansion planned for the County. Currently there are four trail associations actively working in McKean County: Tuna Valley Trail Association, Potato Creek Trail Association, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, and the Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club. These volunteer groups, along with county government, and the Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau are working to promote and build additional trail connections throughout the county and the Pennsylvania Wilds. Further, McKean County is home to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, Inc., at over 900 acres it is the North Central Region’s largest private off-highway vehicle recreation area.

*Potential Partners:* Tuna Valley Trail Association, Potato Creek Trail Association, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, and the Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Allegheny National Forest, McKean County, all municipalities located in McKean County, PA Wilds, Lumber Heritage Region, Inc., PA DCNR, PA DCED, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission.

### **Knox Kane Corridor**

*Project:* Complete feasibility study. Implement recommendations of the feasibility study for the proposed shared use rail trail corridor.

*Counties:* Clarion, Elk, Forest, and McKean

*Length:* 70 miles

*Description:* The owner of the proposed Knox Kane Trail corridor has filed for Notice of Interim Trail Use with the U.S. Surface Transportation Board under provisions of the National Trails System Act. This proposed corridor also has multi-modal potential for an excursion / eco-tourism train in addition to the potential for motorized and non-motorized shared use. If feasible, the proposed Knox Kane Trail may provide access to Allegheny National Forest motorized trails in (Russell City, Timberline and Marienville ATV Trails, & ANF Snowmobile Trails), and with the North Country Trail and Kinzua Bridge State Park and associated trails.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this corridor will provide, there are also Natural Systems Greenways associated with it. Within Elk and McKean Counties, the Tionesta, Kinzua Creek, and Cook Forest natural system greenway corridors are found along the Knox Kane corridor.

Proposed trail towns along this corridor include Kane, Lantz’s Corners, and Mount Jewett in McKean County as well as Marienville in Forest County. In addition, hubs are recommended at Russell City and Lamont in Elk County. Also, the trail corridor passes through or near Knox, Shipperville, and Cook Forest State Park in Clarion County.

*Potential Partners:* North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development Commission,

Northwest Region Planning and Development Commission, McKean, Elk, Forest and Clarion Counties, Headwaters Charitable Trust, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Kinzua Bridge Foundation, Inc., Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Allegheny National Forest, Mt. Jewett Borough, Kane Borough, PA Route 6 Tourist Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Kovalchick, Inc.

The North Central Regional Planning and Development Corporation and the four counties which the corridor extends through (Clarion, Forest, Elk, & McKean), have successfully applied to and received a grant from the PA DCNR to conduct a feasibility study for this corridor. This feasibility study will determine if the corridor, or portions of the corridor are feasible for trail development, recommend the type of trail uses for the corridor, and recommend a phased plan for implementing the proposed segments of trail which may be deemed feasible. The feasibility process must be an inclusive process, and include adjacent property owners..

### *Smethport to Duke Center*

*Project:* Complete feasibility study for proposed motorized shared use trail corridor from Smethport Borough to Duke Center with connection to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails.

*County:* McKean

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* This proposed motorized trail demonstration project will connect Smethport, Gilford, Rew, and Duke Center to the Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails ATV Park. The trail is proposed to follow the former Bradford, Bordell, & Kinzua rail corridor. We recommend snowmobile use of this corridor also be considered.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail will provide, it is also located along the proposed Marvin Creek natural systems greenway corridor west of Smethport.

Also associated with this corridor are the proposed trail town of Smethport.

During the public participation process many attendees expressed interest in developing regional ATV trail connections. This desire was expressed both by members of the ATV community as well as those communities with main streets who see the proposed trails as an economic development opportunity. Smethport Borough is actively pursuing the development and expansion of the Potato Creek trail network. Further, the borough sees the opportunity to capitalize on the economic development opportunities associated with these trails. The owners of Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails recognize their visitors desire to be able to ride to Smethport to access goods and services. Several large parcels of land lie between Smethport Borough and the Majestic properties.

If deemed feasible, this trail corridor must be designed and developed in accordance with sustainable trail design principles and best practices. Successful implementation of this project will serve as a demonstration of how a motorized use trail can be sustainably developed to conserve the resources while meeting the motorized recreation needs of the region's residents. This potentially could open up other opportunities for motorized corridors within the North Central region.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine if public access could be obtained through these properties to provide a motorized trail corridor from Smethport, to Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, and then onto Duke Center. Seneca Resources, one of the large land owners, was interviewed during this planning process. Their land manager indicated that trail easements through their properties would be considered on a case by case basis. The feasibility process must be an inclusive process, and include land owners, adjacent property owners, Borough of Smethport, Potato Creek Trail Association, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, as well as, other stakeholders that have an interest in this process.

*Potential Partners:* McKean County Planning Commission, McKean County Economic Development Department, the Borough of Smethport, Smethport Chamber of Commerce, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Majestic Kamp and Lost Trails, Inc., Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Seneca Resources, Inc.

### ***Blaisdell-Emery Trail Extension***

*Project:* Develop and improve the Blaisdell-Emery Trail Extension from Lewis Run to Kinzua Bridge State Park following the corridor of the former Erie Lackawanna Railroad.

*Potential Partners:* Tuna Valley Trail Association, Lewis Run Borough, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Kinzua Bridge Foundation, Inc., Kinzua Valley Trail Club, McKean County Planning Commission, McKean County Economic Development Department, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau.

### ***Potato Creek Trails System***

*Projects:* Develop U.S. Route 6 trail access as proposed in the Smethport Region Trails Master Plan. Formalize trail easement agreements for Bradford, Bordell, and Kinzua corridor between the McKean County Complex and Kinzua Bridge State Park, develop Potato Creek Water Trail access opportunities, and implement recommendations of the McKean County Complex and McKean County 4-H Grounds Master Plans, implement recommendations for Smethport Borough Trails System, prepare trail town recommendations for Smethport Borough.

*Potential Partners:* Potato Creek Trails Association, Smethport Borough, Smethport Borough Chamber of Commerce, Smethport Area School District, Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Club, Pennsylvania Equine Council, P.M. Saddle Club, McKean County Planning Commission, McKean County Economic Development Department, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Pennsylvania Route 6 Tourist Association.

### ***Kinzua Valley Trail Extensions***

*Project:* Extend Kinzua Valley Trail east from Westline Trailhead to Kinzua Bridge State Park, and west from Markham Run to the Red Bridge Area of the Allegheny National Forest.

*Potential Partners:* Kinzua Valley Trail Club, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Kinzua Bridge Foundation, Inc., Lumber Heritage Region, Inc.

### ***Collins Pine Trail***

*Project:* Acquire trail easement for proposed Collins Pine Trail connecting Marilla Trail System, Allegheny National Forest, and North Country Trail, to the City of Bradford.

*Potential Partners:* Tuna Valley Trails Association, City of Bradford, University of Pittsburgh Bradford, Allegheny National Forest, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, North Country Trail Association, Bradford Water Authority.

### ***Bullis Camp Trail***

*Project:* Develop the Bullis Camp Trail from Marilla Springs Trail west through the Allegheny National Forest to the North Country Trail.

*Potential Partners:* Tuna Valley Trails Association, City of Bradford, University of Pittsburgh Bradford, Allegheny National Forest, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, North Country Trail Association.

### ***Smethport, Bradford, Kane, Mt. Jewett and Port Allegany Boroughs***

*Project:* Conduct Trail Town planning, marketing, and implementation strategies for Smethport, Bradford, Kane, Mount Jewett, and Port Allegany Boroughs.

*Potential Partners:* Smethport Borough, Smethport Chamber of Commerce, Potato Creek Trails Association, McKean County, McKean County Planning Commission, McKean County Economic Development Department. City of Bradford, Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Tuna Valley Trails Association, Kane Borough, Kane Chamber of Commerce, Mount Jewett Borough, Mt. Jewett Borough Chamber of Commerce, Kinzua Valley Trail Club, Port Allegany Borough, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, North Central Pennsylvania Region Planning and Development, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, PA Wilds, Pennsylvania Lumber Heritage Region, Inc., Pennsylvania Route 6 Tourist Association, PA DCNR, PA DCED.

### ***Byways***

*Project:* Pennsylvania Route 46 Emporium to Smethport Scenic Byway

*Potential Partners:* Emporium Borough, Emporium Borough Chamber of Commerce, Smethport Borough, Smethport Borough Chamber of Commerce, Cameron County, McKean County, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, Pennsylvania Byways Program, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region, Inc.

*Project:* Allegheny Forest Byway – Extend the existing Longhouse National Scenic Byway along State Route 59 from the Allegheny National Forest to Smethport Borough and west to Warren. Include State Route 321 north to Kane and south to State Route 346, continuing to the New York State line.

*Potential Partners:* McKean County Planning Commission, Warren County Planning and Zoning, Smethport Borough, Smethport Borough Chamber of Commerce, Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Byways Program, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region, Inc.

#### ***Potato and Marvin Creeks Natural Systems Greenway Corridors***

*Project:* Evaluate opportunities for establishing conservation easements, fishing access agreements, sustainable forestry and agricultural practices, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvement projects such as stormwater control and non-point source pollution remediation along Potato and Marvin Creeks.

*Potential Partners:* McKean County Conservation District, Smethport Borough, Keating Township, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

#### ***Allegheny Portage / Sinnemahoning Portage Creeks Natural Systems Greenway Corridors***

*Project:* Evaluate opportunities for establishing conservation easements, sustainable forestry and agricultural practices, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvement projects such as stormwater control and non-point source pollution remediation in the Allegheny Portage and Sinnemahoning Portage Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridors.

*Potential Partners:* Port Allegany Borough, Upper Allegheny River Watershed Association, McKean County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

#### ***Allegheny River Natural System Greenway Corridor***

*Project:* Implement recommendations of the Upper Allegheny River Watershed Conservation Plan. Obtain conservation easements, public access for environmental education and interpretation along Allegheny River between Port Allegany and Eldred.

*Potential Partners:* Port Allegany Borough, Eldred Borough, Upper Allegheny River Watershed Association, McKean County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

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## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in McKean County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

### *McKean County's Potential Partners*

McKean County Conservation District  
17137 Route 6  
Smethport, PA 16749  
(814) 887-4001  
[www.mckeancountypa.org](http://www.mckeancountypa.org)  
[sdthompson@mckeancountypa.org](mailto:sdthompson@mckeancountypa.org)

Seneca Highlands Conservancy  
800 Minard Run Rd.  
Bradford, PA 16701  
(607) 257-6533  
[john@youngbros.com](mailto:john@youngbros.com)  
Watershed Associations

### *Trail Associations*

Mr. Mark McCoy  
Kinzua Valley Trail Club  
31 CCC Road  
Westline, PA 16740  
(814) 778-5767

Upper Allegheny Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 146  
Coudersport, PA 16915

Potato Creek Trail Association  
c/o Borough of Smethport  
201 W. Main Street  
Smethport, PA 16749  
814-887-5815  
814-598-5811 cell  
<http://smethportpa.org/activities/potato-creek-trail/potatocreektrail@smethportpa.org>

### *Sportsmen Clubs*

Mt. Jewett Sportsmen's Club  
RR1  
Mt. Jewett, PA 16740  
(814) 778-7323

Tuna Valley Trail Association  
P.O. Box 1003  
Bradford, PA 16701  
[www.tunavalleytrail.com](http://www.tunavalleytrail.com)  
[info@tunavalleytrail.com](mailto:info@tunavalleytrail.com)

Trout Unlimited  
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036  
Allegheny Mountain # 036  
107 Simmons St.  
DuBois, PA 15801  
[www.amctu.org](http://www.amctu.org)  
[maksak@comcast.net](mailto:maksak@comcast.net)

### *Land Trust Associations*

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
800 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-288-2777  
<http://conserveland.org>  
[info@paconserve.org](mailto:info@paconserve.org)

### *ATV Associations / Riding Areas*

Ms. Brenda Fitch  
Majestic Kamp & Lost Trails, Inc.  
P.O. Box 94  
Rew, PA 16774  
814-465-9979  
[fitchhill@comcast.net](mailto:fitchhill@comcast.net)

*Snowmobile Associations*

Seneca Highlands Snowmobile Association  
301 Hamlin St  
Smethport, PA 16749  
814-887-2631

McKean Snowriders  
P.O. Box 27  
McKean, PA 16426-0027  
814-450-16510  
www.mckeansnowriders.com  
Carol-mosier@webtv.net

Bucktail SMC  
PO Box 511  
Kane, PA 16735  
814/837-9567

*Visitors Bureaus/ Chamber of Commerce's*

Linda Devlin  
Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau  
Bradford Visitor Center  
80 E. Corydon Street, Suite 114  
PO Box 371  
Bradford, PA 16701  
Phone: 800.473.9370  
Fax: 814.368.9370  
www.visitanf.com  
info@visitanf.com

Bradford Chamber of Commerce  
2 Marilyn Horne Way  
PO Box 135  
Bradford, PA 16701  
814-368-7115, ext.101  
www.bradfordchamber.com

Kane Chamber of Commerce  
54 Fraley Street  
Kane, PA 16735  
814-837-6565  
www.kanepa.com

Port Allegany Chamber of Commerce  
42 N. Main Street  
Port Allegany, PA 16743  
814-642-2526  
www.allegheny-vacation.com

Smethport Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 84  
Smethport, PA 16749  
(814) 887-4134  
*Healthcare*

Bradford Regional Medical Center  
116 Interstate Parkway  
Bradford PA 16701  
www.brmc.com

Kane Community Hospital  
4372 Route 6  
Kane, PA 16735  
(814) 837-8585  
www.kanehosp.com

*Historical Societies / Associations*

McKean County Historical Society  
McKean County Old Jail Building  
502 West King Street  
Smethport, PA 16749-1144  
(814) 887-5142  
Bradford Landmark Society  
45 East Corydon St.  
Bradford, PA 16701  
(814) 362-3906  
www.bradfordlandmark.org  
info@bradfordlandmark.org

Eldred World War II Museum  
201 Main St.  
P.O. Box 273  
Eldred, PA 16731  
814-225-2220

Kinzua Bridge Foundation , Inc.  
17137 Route 6  
Smethport, PA 16701  
(814) 887-2754

Zippo / Case Visitors Center  
1932 Zippo Drive  
Bradford, PA 16701  
(814) 368-1932  
Penn Brad Oil Museum  
901 South Avenue  
Custer City, PA 16725  
(814) 362-1955  
[www.pennbradoilmuseum.cpm](http://www.pennbradoilmuseum.cpm)

Historic Crook Farm  
Seward Avenue Extension  
Bradford, PA 16701  
(814) 362-6730

*Outdoor Clubs and Other Organizations*

P.M. Saddle Club  
233 Tanner Road  
Smethport, PA 16749  
Ginny Eppley, Secretary  
814-887-4121  
[fngeppley@usachoice.net](mailto:fngeppley@usachoice.net)

McKean County ATV Traction  
P.O. Box 154  
Rew, PA 16744  
[shorty36@zoominternet.net](mailto:shorty36@zoominternet.net)

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## **POTTER COUNTY PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**



*Austin Dam Memorial Park, Potter County*



*First Fork Fishing Lodge, Potter County*



*Cherry Springs State Park, Potter County*



*Water Tank Hollow Vista, Potter County*

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## POTTER COUNTY GREENWAYS

Both recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors were identified for the North Central region and each of its six counties, as described in *Chapter 2 - Where do We Want to Be?*

In this section we will identify both the recreation and transportation and natural systems greenway corridors being recommended for Potter County, discuss their priorities at the county level, and provide recommendations on implementation of the priority projects.



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## POTTER COUNTY'S RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION GREENWAY CORRIDORS

In Chapter Two, Building the Network, we identified, inventoried, and mapped the existing trails and potential hubs within Potter County. This information was analyzed and evaluated for potential trail opportunities by:

1. Identifying corridors which were either rail banked or in the process of being rail banked
2. Identifying existing trails which may have the potential to be extended to connect to a trail town, major hub, or hub
3. Identifying potential trail corridors through the public process
4. Identifying former rail corridors which are inactive and may provide an opportunity to serve as a trail corridor

As corridors were identified, many were reviewed and mapped utilizing aerial photography. Further, portions of some of the corridors were reviewed in the field.

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

We must emphasize the corridors were evaluated based on their connectivity, and not based upon existing property ownership. As described earlier in this Chapter, Steps to Trail Implementation, the feasibility of obtaining public access to the potential trail corridor must be evaluated as part of an overall feasibility study. In many cases completing a feasibility study to evaluate the legal, financial, physical, management, and operations of the potential trail is the next step in the implementation process.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

- 20 existing trail corridors
- 11 conceptual / proposed corridors
- 2 proposed scenic byways
- 3 proposed water trail opportunities
- 5 proposed trail towns
- 2 major hubs
- 11 hubs

Potter County's Existing Trail Corridors

Potter County's Existing Trail Corridors	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Sizerville Nature Trail	X				X				
Nady Hollow Trail	X								
Bucktail Path Trail	X								
Chicago Springs Trail	X								
Big Fill Hollow Trail	X								
Commissioner Run Trail	X	X							
Buckseller Run Trail	X								
Storey Trail	X								
Crowell Hollow Trail	X								
S.T.S. Trail	X	X				X	X		
Billy Brown Trail	X								
Twin Sisters Trail	X								
Beehive Trail	X					X	X		
Big Springs Ridge Trail	X								
Black Forest Trail	X								
Clinton Run Trail	X								
Captain Shelton Trail	X					X	X		
Susquehannock State Forest Snowmobile Trails							X		
State Game Lands No. 59 Designated Use Trails	X		X						
State Game Lands No. 64 Designated Use Trails	X		X						

Potter County's Recreation and Transportation Greenway Corridors

During our analysis of potential corridors we categorized them as either:

- Conceptual: Meaning the proposed trail would either a former rail corridor / or follow a route designated through the public process, but there has not been any previous evaluation of the corridor as to its potential to become a trail.
- Proposed: Meaning either there has been a feasibility study completed for the proposed trail or there is an organization actively working towards acquiring public access and establishing a trail in the proposed corridor.

Utilizing the methodology establish in Chapter 2, existing, conceptual, and proposed recreation and transportation greenway corridors were identified, recommended, and prioritized as follows:

Potter County Conceptual and Proposed Recreation & Transportation Trail Corridors	Trail Type (Regional, County, Connector)	Existing Trail Group Support	Corridor Status	Trail Demand	Land Acquisition	Connectivity	Benefits to the Public	Funding Opportunities & Partners	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Potter County Ranking	Priority	Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	Cross Country Skiing	Interpretive Education	All Terrain Vehicle	Snowmobile	Off Road Motorcycle	Off Highway Vehicle
Pine Creek Trail Extension	5	5	1	5	1	10	4	3	3	10	47	4	1	Exceptional	X	X	X	X					
Austin Dam Trail	2	5	3	4	3	3	4	5	3	0	32	14	2	Exceptional	X	X		X	X				
Allegheny Trail	3	2	1	3	1	3	3	1	2	10	29	17	3	Significant	X	X		X	X	X			
Port Allegheny to Coudersport Trail	3	0	1	2	1	3	3	1	3	10	27	19	4		X	X				X	X	X	
Sinnemahoning State Park to Galeton Trail	3	1	1	2	1	3	3	2	1	10	27	19	5		X	X					X		
Coudersport to Shinglehouse Trail	3	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	2	10	27	19	6		X	X				X	X	X	
North Border Trail	5	1	1	2	1	3	3	2	1	0	19	27	7	High	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Ulysses Trail	5	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	16	30	8		X	X	X	X					
Wharton to Keating Summit	3	1	1	2	1	3	3	2	1	0	17	29	9		X	X	X						
Genesee to Coneville Trail	3	1	1	2	1	3	3	2	1	0	17	29	10		X	X	X			X	X	X	
Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor Trail	5	0	0	2	0	4	3	0	3	0	17	29	11		X	X		X					

Potter County's Potential Water Trails

Potter County's Potential Water Trails	Connection / Extension of Existing Water Trail	Trail Demand	Connectivity	Economic Development Potential	Associated with Potential Trail Town	No. Counties	Associated with Core Systems	Total	Regional Ranking	Potter County Ranking	Priority
Upper Allegheny River	5	3	5	5	1	3	10	32	1	1	Exceptional
Pine Creek	0	3	5	5	1	2	10	26	3	2	Significant
Sinnemahoning Creek, First Fork	0	1	3	3	0	2	10	19	8	3	High

Potter's County Trail Towns, Major Hubs, and Hubs

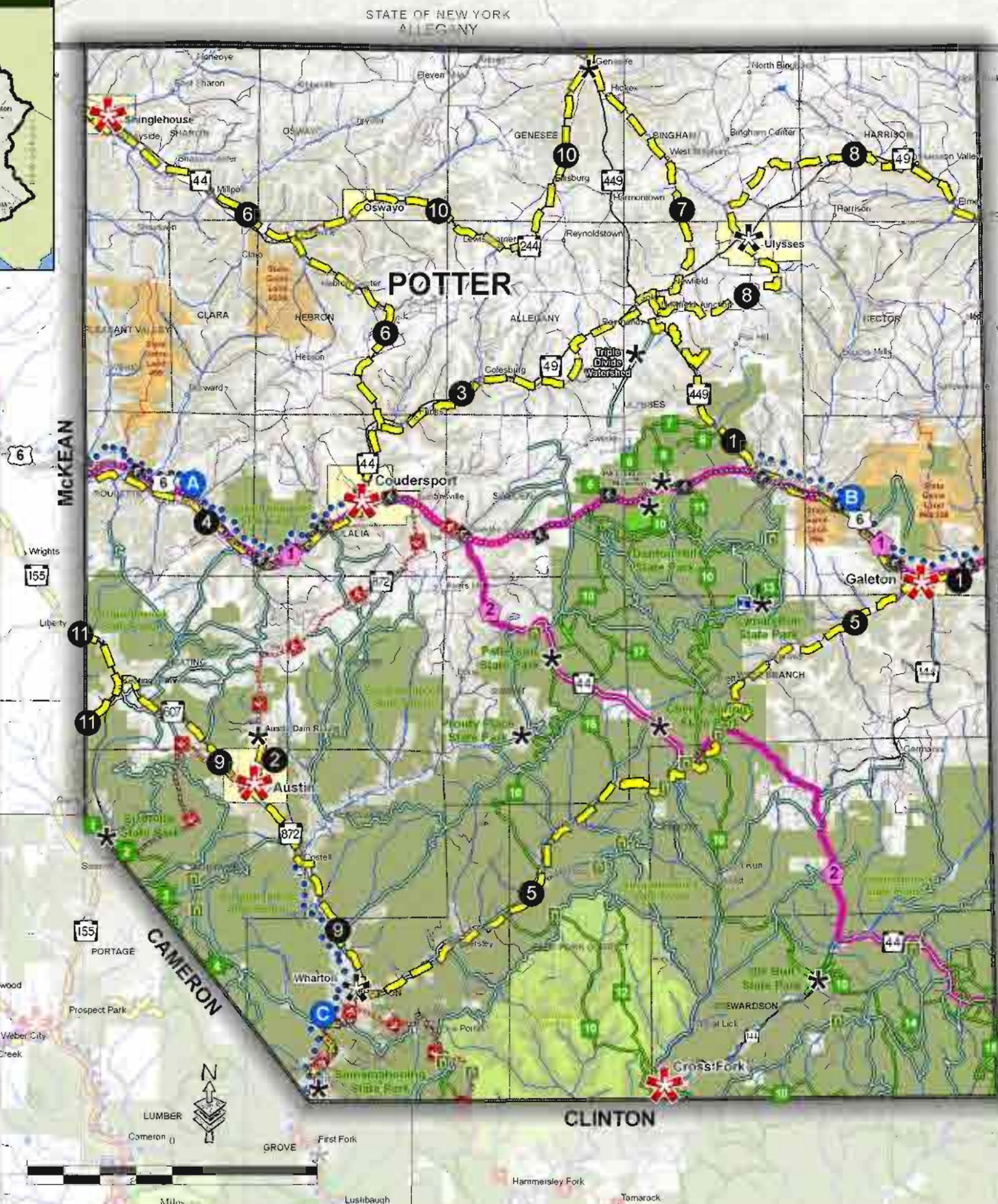
- Austin..... Trail Town
- Coudersport..... Trail Town
- Cross Fork..... Trail Town
- Galeton..... Trail Town
- Ulysses..... Major Hub
- Shinglehouse..... Trail Town
- Wharton ..... Major Hub
- Lumber Heritage Museum..... Hub
- Triple Divide..... Hub
- Austin Dam..... Hub
- Denton Hill State Park ..... Hub
- Cherry Springs State Park..... Hub
- Ole Bull State Park ..... Hub
- Lyman Run State Park ..... Hub
- Sinnemahoning State Park ..... Hub
- Sizerville State Park..... Hub
- Patterson State Park ..... Hub
- Prouty Place State Park..... Hub

# Location Map



# Legend

- Base Map Features**
  - County Boundary
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Borough
  - Urban Areas
- Hydrology**
  - Lake / Reservoir
  - Named Streams
  - Tributary Streams
- Transportation**
  - PA State Route
  - US Highway
  - Local Road
  - Active Railroad
- DCNR Managed Land**
  - State Park
  - Pennsylvania State Forest
  - State Game Land
  - State Forest Wild & Natural Areas
- Recreation & Transportation Corridors**
  - Hiking
  - Existing Trail
  - Existing State Game Land Trail
  - Existing Snowmobile Route
  - Proposed
  - Under Construction
  - Conceptual
  - Proposed Lumber Heritage Park Bicycle Tour Route
  - Water Trail
  - PAFBC Access Points
  - Existing Scenic Byway
  - Designated Scenic Vista
  - Potential Scenic Vista



- ### Trails
- 1 Proposed & Conceptual Trails**
    - Pine Creek Trail Extension
    - Autsin Dam Trail
    - Allegheny Trail
    - Port Allegany to Coudersport Trail
    - Wharton to Galeton Trail
    - Coudersport to Shinglehouse Trail
    - North Border Trail
    - Ulysses Trail
    - Wharton to Keating Summit Trail
    - Genesee to Coneville Trail
    - Norfolk Southern Rail Corridor Trail
  - 2 Existing Trails**
    - Sizerville Nature Trail
    - Nady Hollow Trail
    - Bucktail Path
    - Chicago Springs Trail
    - Big Fill Hollow Trail
    - Commissioner Run Trail
    - Buckseller Run Trail
    - Storey Trail
    - Crowell Hollow Trail
    - S.T.S. Trail
    - Billy Brown Trail
    - Twin Sisters Trail
    - Beehive Trail
    - Big Spring Ridge Trail
    - Black Forest Trail
    - Clinton Trail
    - Captain Shelton Trail
  - A Proposed Water Trails**
    - A. Allegheny River
    - B. Pine Creek
    - C. First Fork Sinnemahoning
  - Scenic Byways**
    - US Route 6 - Scenic Highway - National Recreational Trail
    - Dark Skies Pike (Coudersport Pike)
- Points of Interest**
- Trail Town
  - Major Hub
  - Hub

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**PASHEK ASSOCIATES**  
 a pennsylvania corporation

*Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of this data.*

# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKean • Potter —

Potter County  
 Proposed - Recreation & Transportation Greenways

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# Location Map



STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALLEGANY

STATE OF NEW YORK  
STEUEN



## Natural Systems Greenways

1. Hammersey Fork
2. First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek
3. Kettle Creek
4. Cowley Run
5. Allegheny Portage Creek
6. Lyman Run
7. Slate Run
8. Sinnemahoning Portage Creek
9. Cross Fork
10. Fishing Creek
11. Hunts Run
12. Oswayo Creek
13. Allegheny River
14. East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek
15. Pine Creek
16. West Branch Pine Creek
17. Phoenix Run
18. Young Womens Creek
19. Freeman Run
20. Big Moores Run
21. Ninemile Run
22. West Branch Genesee River
23. Cowanesque River
24. Genesee Forks
25. Genesee River
26. South Woods Branch
27. Mill Creek (Potter County)
28. Middle Branch Genesee River

## Legend

**Base Map Features**

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Urban Areas

**Hydrology**

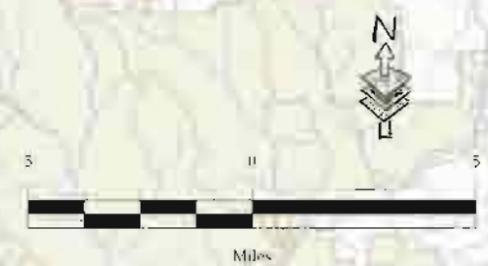
- Lake / Reservoir
- Named Streams
- Tributary Streams

**Transportation**

- Interstate
- PA State Route
- US Highway
- Local Road
- Active Railroad
- Managed (Conserved) Lands

**Natural Systems Greenways**

- 16 to 27
- 28 to 36
- 37 to 47



LYCOMING

Data Source:  
 ESRI 2008 Street Map USA Data  
 US Geologic Survey (USGS)  
 Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA)  
 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)  
 Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR)  
 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)  
 Pashek Associates makes no claims  
 to the accuracy of this data.



**Potter County**  
*Natural Systems Greenways*

# North Central Greenways Plan

— Cameron • Clearfield • Elk • Jefferson • McKeen • Potter —



Potter County - Natural Systems Greenways Priorities Chart

County Priority	County Rank	Greenway Name	Sensitivity Ranking	Total Acres	Conserved Acres	Percent Conserved	Non-Conserved Acres	Percent Non-Conserved	Managed Lands (Conserved)	Regional Rank	Regional Rank
Exceptional	1	Hammersley Fork	39.88	18,642	18,642	100.00%	-	-	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area	1	Vital
Significant	2	First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	28.39	37,020	28,855	77.94%	8,165	22.06%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Sinnemahoning State Park	4	Vital
	3	Kettle Creek	27.20	32,790	26,962	82.23%	5,828	17.77%	Susquehannock State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Sinnemahoning State Park, Lyman Run State Park	6	Vital
	4	Cowley Run	25.11	6,275	5,451	86.87%	824	13.13%	Elk State Forest, Sizerville State Park	12	Exceptional
	5	Allegheny Portage Creek	24.65	6,304	4,393	69.69%	1,911	30.31%	Susquehannock State Forest	15	Exceptional
	6	Lyman Run	24.59	32,790	26,962	82.23%	5,828	17.77%	Susquehannock State Forest, Sproul State Forest, Tioga State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area, Ole Bull State Park	16	Exceptional
	7	Slate Run	23.94	2,039	2,039	100.00%	-	-	Susquehannock State Forest, Tiadaghton State Forest, Tioga State Forest	19	Exceptional
	8	Sinnemahoning Portage Creek	23.86	1,355	765	56.46%	590	43.54%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest	20	Exceptional
	9	Cross Fork	23.74	15,569	14,933	95.91%	636	4.09%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area	22	Exceptional
	10	Fishing Creek	23.71	2,320	-	-	2,320	100.00%		23	Exceptional
	11	Hunts Run	23.63	579	537	92.75%	42	7.25%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest	26	Exceptional
	12	Oswayo Creek	23.39	26,745	1,073	4.01%	25,672	95.99%	State Game Land #204	28	Exceptional
	13	Allegheny River	23.33	14,270	639	4.48%	13,631	95.52%	Susquehannock State Forest	32	Exceptional
	14	East Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	22.10	15,310	13,423	87.67%	1,887	12.33%	Susquehannock State Forest, Hammersley Wild Area	45	Exceptional
	15	Pine Creek	21.99	20,211	9,492	46.96%	10,719	53.04%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest	46	Exceptional
	16	West Branch Pine Creek	21.58	13,091	6,879	52.55%	6,212	47.45%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest, Cherry Spring State Park	48	Exceptional
	17	Phoenix Run	19.78	3,548	1,404	39.57%	2,144	60.43%	State Game Land #64, Susquehannock State Forest	68	Exceptional
	18	Young Womans Creek	19.44	5,323	5,202	97.73%	121	2.27%	Susquehannock State Forest, Tiadaghton State Forest, Sproul State Forest	72	Exceptional
	19	Freeman Run	18.97	6,862	3,143	45.80%	3,719	54.20%	Elk State Forest, Susquehannock State Forest	77	Significant
	20	Big Moores Run	18.85	3,574	2,351	65.78%	1,223	34.22%	Susquehannock State Forest	78	High
	High	21	Ninemile Run	18.75	2,647	2,128	80.39%	519	19.61%	Susquehannock State Forest, Denton Hill State Park	79
22		West Branch Genesee River	18.61	3,877	-	-	3,877	100.00%		81	High
23		Cowanisque River	18.11	1,801	-	-	1,801	100.00%		83	High
24		Genesee Forks	18.08	5,068	-	-	5,068	100.00%		84	High
25		Genesee River	17.55	2,508	-	-	2,508	100.00%		91	High
26		South Woods Branch	16.23	3,549	1,436	40.46%	2,113	59.54%	Susquehannock State Forest	94	High
27		Mill Creek (Potter County)	16.23	4,674	114	2.44%	4,560	97.56%	Susquehannock State Forest	99	High
28		Middle Branch Genesee River	15.94	2,351	-	-	2,351	100.00%		101	High
<b>Totals</b>				<b>291,092</b>	<b>176,823</b>	<b>60.74%</b>	<b>114,269</b>	<b>39.26%</b>			



## POTTER COUNTY

### ***Triple Divide / Genesee River Wilds Corridor***

*Projects:* Evaluate feasibility of the proposed Pine Creek Trail Extension from Galeton to New Field Junction and North Border Trail from New Field Junction to New York State Line at Genesee, Pennsylvania. Develop recommendations to implement trail towns philosophy in Galeton. Acquire conservation easement / property at Eastern Triple Divide. Market, promote, and develop interpretive resources for the Eastern Triple Divide. The Triple Divide, near Gold, Pennsylvania, is the intersection of North American watersheds of the Atlantic Seaboard, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Gulf of Saint Lawrence at the respective Pennsylvania headwaters of Pine Creek (West Branch Susquehanna River), the Allegheny River, and the Genesee River.

Potential Partners: Potter County Planning Department, Genesee River Wilds Project, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Potter County, Tioga County, United States Geological Survey, Susquehanna River Partnership, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Topography and Geology, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Headwater Natural Resource Conservation and Development Council, Potter County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Northcentral Conservancy.

*Counties:* Potter and Tioga

*Length:* 39.8 miles

*Description:* This corridor extends from the existing Pine Creek Trail in Tioga County to the New York State line at Genesee. Proposed trails include the North Border Trail and Pine Creek Trail Extension. Also located in this corridor is the proposed Pine Creek water trail. When completed, this corridor will provide connections to the Susquehannock State Forest Trail System, Triple Divide US Route 6 Scenic Byway, the Lumber Heritage Museum, and five State Parks.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also intersects several Natural Systems Greenways including; - Genesee, Ninemile Run, and Pine Creek.

Galeton Borough is proposed as a trail town along this corridor and Genesee, the Triple Divide, Lumber Heritage Museum and several state parks are proposed as hubs.

### ***Sinnemahoning Creeks and Branches / Elk Country Corridor***

*Projects:* Complete feasibility studies for the proposed and non-motorized shared use rail trail corridor, proposed hiking trail connections in Sinnemahoning, and proposed water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek and branches.

*Counties:* Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, and Potter

*Length:* 13.7 miles

*Description:* The proposed Elk Country Trail follows the former corridor of the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad which connects DuBois in Clearfield County with Driftwood in Cameron County. If completed the Elk Country Trail will provide connections to the Bucktail Path, Quehanna, and Donut Hole Trails.

Explore the feasibility of an interconnected network of water trails along Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for water quality improvements such as acid mine drainage remediation and non-point source pollution along Sinnemahoning Creek, Driftwood Branch, Bennetts Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creeks.

We recommend a feasibility study be completed to determine how to connect the land based trails to Sinnemahoning Borough and to one another. By making these connections hikers will be able to connect with every major State Forest Hiking Trail in the PA Wilds and beyond. This would make for the largest regional trail connection proposed to date. These corridors also connect with the proposed Norfolk Southern, Sinnemahoning to Sinnemahoning State Park, and Elk Country rail trail corridors recommended herein.

Other regional assets in this corridor include Sinnemahoning State Park, the Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds Elk Viewing Center, Elk State Forest and Natural Areas as well as the Bucktail Trail and Elk scenic drives.

In addition to the recreation and transportation benefits this trail corridor will provide, it is also situated adjacent to several Natural Systems Greenways including; Sinnemahoning Creek, Bennetts Branch, Driftwood Branch and First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

The City of DuBois and Emporium are proposed as a trail towns within this corridor while Penfield, Benezette, Driftwood, and Sinnemahoning are proposed as major hubs and Sinnemahoning State Park is proposed as a hub.

*Potential Partners:* Driftwood, Benezette, Penfield, DuBois, DuBois Revitalization Group, Cameron County, Cameron County Conservation District, Elk County, Elk County Conservation District, Clearfield County, Clearfield County Conservation District, Elk State Forest, Sinnemahoning State Park, PA DCNR, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Upper Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Bennett's Branch Watershed Association, Bucktail Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### ***Austin Dam Trail***

Project: Implement the recommendations of the Austin Dam Memorial Park and Trail Master Plan

Potential Partners: Austin Borough, Austin Dam Memorial Association, E.O. Austin Museum, Potter County Visitors Association, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc, PA Route 6 Tourist Association.

### ***Austin Borough Trail Town***

Project: Complete trail town master plan for Austin Borough

Potential Partners: Austin Borough, Austin Dam Memorial Association, Potter County Visitors Association, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., PA Route 6 Tourist Association.

### ***Wharton to Galeton Trail***

Project: Evaluate feasibility of the proposed trail connecting Sinnemahoning State Park, Cherry Springs State Park, Lyman Run State Park, and Galeton Borough.

Potential Partners: Potter County Visitors Association, Galeton Borough, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks and Bureau of Forestry, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc., PA Route 6 Tourist Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, North Central Planning and Development Commission, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council.

### ***Pine Creek Trail Extension and North Border Trails, and Galeton Trail Town***

Project: Evaluate feasibility of the proposed Pine Creek Trail Extension from Galeton to New Field Junction and North Border Trail from New Field Junction to New York State Line at Genesee, Pennsylvania. Develop recommendations to implement trail towns philosophy in Galeton.

Potential Partners: Genesee River Wilds Project, PA Wilds Planning Team, Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Potter County, Tioga County.

### ***U.S. Route 6 and PA Lumber Heritage Museum***

Projects: Continue to support the efforts of U.S. Route 6 and PA Lumber Heritage Museum as regional destinations in the PA Wilds and Lumber Heritage initiatives.

Potential Partners: Pennsylvania Route 6 communities, Pennsylvania Route 6 Tourist Association, Potter County Visitors Association, Headwaters Charitable Trust, Potter County Conservation District, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

### ***First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridor***

Project: Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and evaluate opportunities for acid mine drainage remediation

and stream bank stabilization along First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek between Wharton and Austin. Evaluate potential for establishing a water trail along First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek.

Potential Partners: Headwaters Charitable Trust, Potter County Conservation District, Upper First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Susquehanna River Greenway Partnership, Wharton and Austin Boroughs, Bucktail Watershed Association, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### *Genesee, Ninemile Run, and Pine Creek Natural System Greenway Corridors*

Projects: Evaluate the potential for acquisition of conservation and riparian easements, educate, advocate, implement agricultural best management practices on priority farms having the greatest impacts on water quality, streambank stabilization, and sustainable forest practices. Market Triple Divide as a regional attraction in the Lumber Heritage and PA Wilds initiatives.

Potential Partners: Headwaters Charitable Trust, Potter County Conservation District, Pine Creek Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Council, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Genesee River Wilds Project, Allegany County Chamber of Commerce..

### *Kettle Creek Natural Systems Greenway Corridor*

Project: Support projects within the Kettle Creek Natural Systems Greenway corridor that are being undertaken by Kettle Creek Watershed Association. Evaluate opportunities for conservation easements, agricultural best management practices, stream improvements, fishing access, and potential for water trail along Kettle Creek.

Potential Partners: Headwaters Charitable Trust, Potter County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, Kettle Creek Watershed Association, Susquehanna River Greenway Partnership, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Potential partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified in Potter County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

### *Potter County's Potential Partners*

Potter Conservation District  
107 Market Street  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
(814) 274-8411 ext. 4  
www.pottercd.com  
pccd@zitomedia.net

#### *Trail Associations*

Genesee River Wilds Project  
Allen Kerkeslager, Ph.D., Department of Theology,  
Saint Joseph's University, 5600 City Avenue,  
Philadelphia, PA 19131-1395.  
akerkesl@sju.edu  
610- 660-1121  
www.geneseeriverwilds.org

#### *Land Trust / Land Owner Associations*

North Central Forest Landowners' Association  
PO Box 141  
Port Allegheny, PA 16743  
<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/ncfla>

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
800 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-288-2777  
<http://conserveland.org>  
info@paconserve.org

Ms. Renee Carey, Executive Director  
Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy  
PO Box 2083  
Williamsport, PA 17703  
570-323-6222  
www.npcweb.org  
rcarey@npcweb.org

Potter - Tioga Maple Producers Association  
bud@pamaple.com

#### *Watershed Associations*

Kinzua Fish & Wildlife Association  
Bob Boyer  
PO Box 454  
Kane, PA 16735  
mbboy@verizon.net  
www.kfwa.org

Pine Creek Headwaters Protection Group  
Ron Comstock, Terra Dillman  
PO Box 445  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-724-5097  
riverofpinescottage@hotmail.com; terra.dillman@  
pa.nacdnet.net  
www.penweb.org/pinecreek

Kettle Creek Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 317  
Cross Fork, PA 17729  
ktlcrik@aol.com

Cowanesque Valley Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 38  
Knoxville, PA 16926

Upper Allegheny River Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 146  
Coudersport, PA 16915

*Sportsmen Clubs*

Black Forest Conservation Association  
[www.pottercountymbfca.com](http://www.pottercountymbfca.com)

Trout Unlimited God's Country # 327  
820 Rte. 49  
Coudersport PA 16915

*Snowmobile Clubs*

Potter Co Snowmobile Association  
Box 82  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814/274-7372  
[www.pcscridders.com](http://www.pcscridders.com)  
[jblass91@gmail.com](mailto:jblass91@gmail.com)

Southern Potter SMC  
PO Box 31  
Austin, PA 16720  
814/647-8729

The Trail Busters Snowmobile Club  
PO Box 692  
Shinglehouse, PA 16748

West End Trailblazers, Inc  
PO Box 69  
Roulette, PA 16746  
814/544-9060

God's Country Black Forest Snowmobile Club  
82 Mitchell Rd  
Galeton, PA 16922  
814-435-6618

Hilltop Howlers  
PO Box 169  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814/583-7030

*Outfitters*

Potter County Outfitters  
336 Route 6 West  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814-274-0772  
[pcoservice@verizon.net](mailto:pcoservice@verizon.net)

Cimino Hardware, Inc.  
16 West Street  
Galeton, PA 16922  
814-435-9911  
[tonycimino@verizon.net](mailto:tonycimino@verizon.net)

*Visitors Bureaus/ Chambers of Commerce*

Mr. David Brooks  
Potter County Visitors Association  
P.O. Box 245  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
888-POTTER-2  
[www.pottercountypa.org](http://www.pottercountypa.org)  
[dbrooks@visitpottercounty.com](mailto:dbrooks@visitpottercounty.com)

Ms. Terri Dennison  
PA Route 6 Tourist Association  
PO Box 180  
Galeton PA 16922  
(814) 435-7706  
(814) 435-6322  
[www.paroute6.com](http://www.paroute6.com)  
[terri.paroute6@penn.com](mailto:terri.paroute6@penn.com)

Coudersport Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 261  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814-274-8165  
[www.coudersportonline.com](http://www.coudersportonline.com)  
*Healthcare*

Charles Cole Memorial Hospital  
1001 East 2nd Street, (Route 6 East)  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814-274-9300  
www.charlescoleshospital.com

*Historical Societies / Associations*

Potter County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 605  
308 N. Main St.  
Coudersport, Pa 16915  
(814) 274-4410  
<http://history.pottercountypa.net>  
[gazelle@pennswoods.net](mailto:gazelle@pennswoods.net)

E.O. Austin Home  
P.O. Box 412  
1 Town Square  
Austin, PA 16720  
814-647-8358  
[www.austinhistoricalociety.com](http://www.austinhistoricalociety.com)  
[eoastinhistsoc@zitomedia.net](mailto:eoastinhistsoc@zitomedia.net)

Austin Dam Memorial Association  
State Route 872 North, P.O. Box 136  
Austin, PA 16720  
814-647-3318  
<http://austindam.net>  
[austindam@yahoo.com](mailto:austindam@yahoo.com)

Painted Hills Genealogy Society  
[www.paintedhills.org](http://www.paintedhills.org)  
[paint@paintedhills.org](mailto:paint@paintedhills.org)

Food Matrix  
Box 1242  
Shinglehouse, PA 16748  
Phone: (814) 698-2799  
[www.food-matrix.org](http://www.food-matrix.org)  
[food\\_matrix@hotmail.com](mailto:food_matrix@hotmail.com)

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum  
5660 US Route 6  
PO Box 239  
Galeton, PA 16922  
814-435-2652  
[www.lumbermuseum.org](http://www.lumbermuseum.org)  
[info@lumbermuseum.org](mailto:info@lumbermuseum.org)

Susquehannock Trail Club  
P.O. Box 643  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
[www.stc-hike.org](http://www.stc-hike.org)  
[stchike@gmail.com](mailto:stchike@gmail.com)

Woodsmen's Show  
PO Box 73  
Galeton, PA 16922  
Phone: 814-435-6855  
[www.woodsmenshow.com](http://www.woodsmenshow.com)  
[info@woodsmenshow.com](mailto:info@woodsmenshow.com)

## **POTENTIAL REGIONAL PARTNERS**

Potential regional partners are the agencies and organizations that have been identified within the North Central Pennsylvania region County that may be able to assist with various aspects of project implementation. This list is not all inclusive, but it identifies the typical agencies and organizations that can be a resource for project implementation.

Mr. Matt Marusiak  
North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and  
Development Commission  
651 Montmorenci Road  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
814-773-3162  
mmarusiak@exchange.ncentral.com

Headwaters Resource Conservation & Development  
Council, Inc.  
478 Jeffers Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-1372 ext. 4  
headwatr@penn.com  
www.parc.d.org/Headwaters/headwaters%20home.  
htm

Mr. Tim Bruno, Watershed Manager  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental  
Protection Northwest Regional Office  
Elk, Jefferson, and McKean Counties  
230 Chestnut Street  
Meadville, PA 16335  
814-332-6945  
tibruno@state.pa.us

Mr. Jason Fallon, Watershed Manager  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental  
Protection Northcentral Regional Office  
208 West Third Street  
Suite 101  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-327-3423  
jfallon@state.pa.us

Ms. Kim McCullough, PA DCNR Northwest  
Regional Advisor  
230 Chesnut Street  
Meadville, PA 16335  
814-332-6190  
kmcculloug@state.pa.us

Mr. Wes Fahringer, PA DCNR North Central  
Regional Advisor  
330 Pine Street, Suite 300  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-326-3521  
mfahringer@state.pa.us

Ms. Jackie Kramer, Statewide Public Access &  
Conservation Lands Coordinator  
PA Fish & Boat Commission  
1601 Elmerton Avenue  
PO Box 67000  
Harrisburg PA 17106-7000  
814-705-7845

Mr. Dennis Puko  
Pennsylvania Governor's Center for Local  
Government  
1403A State Office Building  
300 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-770-1660  
dpuko@state.pa.us

Mr. Christopher Tracey  
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program  
800 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
412-586-2326

Mr. Kevin R. Kline, P.E., District Executive  
PennDOT District 2-0  
1924 Daisy Street, P.O. Box 342  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
814-765-0400

Mr. Joseph P. Dubovi III, P.E., District Executive  
PennDOT Engineering District 10-0  
2550 Oakland Ave.  
PO Box 429  
Indiana, PA 15701  
724-357-2800

Mr. Greg Sassaman, Regional Park Manager  
Pennsylvania State Parks Region 1  
260 Sizerville Road  
Emporium, PA 15834-9799  
814-486-3365

Bureau of Forestry  
Forest District #13  
Cameron and Elk Counties  
258 Sizerville Road  
Emporium, PA 15834  
(814) 486-3353

Bureau of Forestry  
Forest District #9 – Moshannon  
Clearfield County  
3372 State Park Road  
Penfield, PA 15849  
(814) 765-0821

Bureau of Forestry  
Forest District #8 – Clear Creek  
Jefferson County  
158 South Second Ave.  
Clarion, PA 16214-1904  
(814) 226-1901

Bureau of Forestry  
Forest District #15 - Susquehannock  
McKean and Potter Counties  
PO Box 673  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
(814) 274-3600

Ms. Ta Brant, Small Business Ombudsman  
PA Wilds  
Sugar Grove, PA 16350  
814-757-9190  
814-730-3549 cell  
[www.pawildsresources.org](http://www.pawildsresources.org)  
[tbrant@pawilds.com](mailto:tbrant@pawilds.com)

Mr. Sam MacDonald, Outreach Specialist  
PA Wilds  
PO Box 285  
125 East Avenue  
Ridgway, PA 15853  
814-203-7638  
[www.pawildsresources.org](http://www.pawildsresources.org)  
[smacdonald@pawilds.com](mailto:smacdonald@pawilds.com)

Ms. Dana Crisp, Assistant Regional Manager  
PA Wilds  
Bucktail State Park  
State Park Region 1 Office  
R.R. 4, Box 212  
Emporium, PA 15834-9799  
(814) 486-3365  
[rcrisp@state.pa.us](mailto:rcrisp@state.pa.us)

Mr. Rob Fallon, District Ranger  
Allegheny National Forest  
State Route 66  
Marienville, PA 16239  
(814) 927-5799  
[rfallon@fs.fed.us](mailto:rfallon@fs.fed.us)

Mr. Michael S. Wennin, Executive Director  
Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania, Inc.  
Cameron County Courthouse  
20 East Fifth Street  
Emporium, PA 15834  
814.486.0213  
[info@lumberheritage.org](mailto:info@lumberheritage.org)  
[www.lumberheritage.org](http://www.lumberheritage.org)

Mr. Keith Craig, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council  
2301 N. Cameron Street, Room 308  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
717-772-3715  
[kecraig@state.pa.us](mailto:kecraig@state.pa.us)

Mr. Paul Lyskava, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Forest Products Association  
301 Chestnut Street, Suite 102  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-901-0420  
[pfpa@paforestproducts.org](mailto:pfpa@paforestproducts.org)

Ms. Susan Swanson, Executive Director  
Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group  
PO Box 133  
Kane, PA 16735  
814-837-8550  
hardwood@penn.com

Mr. Andrew M. Loza  
Pennsylvania Land Trust Association  
105 Locust Street, Suite 300  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-230-8560  
<http://conserveland.org>  
aloza@conserveland.org

PA CleanWays  
105 West Fourth Street  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-836-4121  
[www.pacleanways.org](http://www.pacleanways.org)

Mr. R. John Dawes, Executive Director  
The Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds  
9697 Loop Road  
Alexandria, Pennsylvania 16611  
814- 669-4244  
rjdawes1@verizon.net

Ms. Marci Mowery, President  
Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation  
105 North Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1436  
717- 236-7644  
mmowery-ppff@pa.net

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
1133 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington D.C. 20005  
202-857-0166

Pennsylvania Equine Council  
Post Office Box 62  
Huntington Mills, PA 18622-0062  
888-304-0281  
[www.pennsylvaniaequinecouncil.com](http://www.pennsylvaniaequinecouncil.com)  
info@pennsylvaniaequinecouncil.com

Mr. Curt Ashenfelter  
Keystone Trails Association  
101 North Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1404  
(717) 238-7017  
[www.kta-hike.org](http://www.kta-hike.org)  
ktahike@verizon.net

Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association  
908 N 2nd Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17102  
888-411-PSSA  
[www.pasnow.org](http://www.pasnow.org)  
jrauker@dejazzd.com

The Pennsylvania Off Highway Vehicle Association  
P. O. Box 61741  
Harrisburg, PA 17106  
717-920-1312  
[www.paohv.org](http://www.paohv.org)  
administrator@paohv.org

Northern Allegheny Mountain Bike Association  
c/o Mr. Andy Georgakis  
114 Conewango Avenue  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-730-0847  
[www.bikeallegheny.org](http://www.bikeallegheny.org)  
Agibike77@hotmail.com

Mr. Scott McChesney, Land Manager  
National Fuel Seneca Resources, Inc.  
51 Zents Boulevard  
Brookville, PA 15825-2701  
814-849-4555 x-7234

## POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Development of a greenways network can be costly and requires a long-term strategy to access a variety of federal, state, and private sector funding opportunities. Funding programs designed to conserve natural resources, develop recreational trails, and create transportation improvements are all potential sources of grants for implementation of the recommendations contained herein. Most require some form of local match, and sometimes one grant opportunity can be utilized as the ‘local match’ for another grant opportunity. This match requirement is often a barrier for rural communities.

During the Northwest Pennsylvania Region Greenway Planning process, a strategy was developed to leverage PA DCNR, PA DEP, and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission funding. The Northwest Pennsylvania Commission successfully applied to each agency to obtain funding to be allocated for greenway implementation projects. In its first year the program received:

- \$130,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- \$130,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- \$100,000 from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

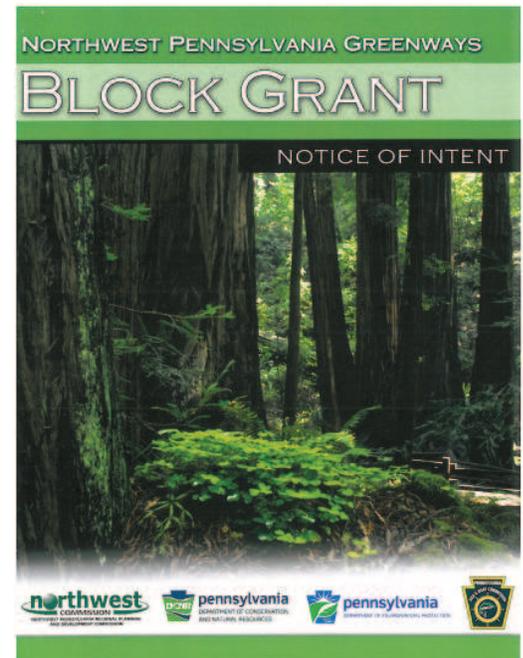
This program leverages funding of various state agencies to reduce the local match, cash or in-kind services, traditionally required to receive funding. Thus, reducing the match requirement to the point it can be achieved by rural communities.

We recommend the model developed by the Northwest Commission be considered for the North Central Pennsylvania region as well. We also recommend that additional funding sources and opportunities be explored to expand it, such as, incorporating the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation grant programs.

Any funding strategy should leverage local resources as well. Private and non-profit foundations in the communities and region are important sources of funding that should not be overlooked when assembling funding strategies. In addition, efforts should be made to create public-private partnerships and to seek in-kind contributions from local businesses in the communities and the region.

It is important to thoroughly research and understand the type or organization, their focus, their grant making requirements and conditions before applying for foundation or corporate giving grants. There are many sources of information on foundations and corporate giving opportunities. We have found the following most useful:

- [foundationcenter.org](http://foundationcenter.org)
- [grantstation.com](http://grantstation.com)
- [cof.org](http://cof.org)



- [pafoundations.net](http://pafoundations.net)
- [environmentalgrants.com](http://environmentalgrants.com)

The following tables list many current funding sources that are available to assist in funding greenway efforts in the North Central region. Because these programs are constantly changing, these tables are a starting point. When seeking grant programs, applicants should check web sites of the funding organizations for an updated listing of grant programs and eligibility requirements.

### **Successful Grant Writing Strategies - Keys to Success**

- Include community stakeholders from the beginning and solicit their input.
- Plan for your project well in advance of grant deadlines. For federal grants or other large dollar grants, consider allowing yourself at least several months to complete the application.
- Develop a vision and mission around your project.
- Follow the grant guidelines very carefully. Make sure your proposal is complete, compliant, and persuasive.
- Determine ways to make the project sustainable after the grant period.
- Find existing programs in your community with which you can partner for infrastructure, resources, funding, and expertise.
- If you are seeking funds from a foundation or corporate giving source, contact the grant officer before to developing your proposal.
- Use personal contacts whenever possible with foundations and corporate giving sources.



**Federal Public Agency Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Agency	Purpose	Website
Brownfields Redevelopment Initiative	General Services Administration	includes trails	<a href="http://bri/gda/gov/brownfields/home">http://bri/gda/gov/brownfields/home</a>
Community Development Block Grant	U.S. Department of Housing	can include greenways	<a href="http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/index.cfm">www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/index.cfm</a>
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program	Federal Highway & Transportation Administration	includes trails	<a href="http://www.fwha.dot.gov/environment/cmaqps/index.htm">www.fwha.dot.gov/environment/cmaqps/index.htm</a>
Conservation Reserve Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture	resource conservation	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crp.htm">www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crp.htm</a>
Economic Development Grants for Public Works	Economic Development Administration	trail development	<a href="http://www.cfda.gov/public/viewprog/asp?progid=167">www.cfda.gov/public/viewprog/asp?progid=167</a>
Environmental Education Grants Program	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Environmental Education Projects	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html">www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html</a>
Federal Public Lands Highway Discretionary Grants	Federal Highway Administration	includes trails	<a href="http://www.fwha.dot.gov/tea21/factsheets/fedland.htm">www.fwha.dot.gov/tea21/factsheets/fedland.htm</a>
Healthy People 2010 Community Grants Program	Federal Department of Health & Human Services	health and wellness	<a href="http://www.health.gov/healthypeople/impleeetation/">www.health.gov/healthypeople/impleeetation/</a>
Land & Water Conservation Fund Grants	National Park Service	trails and greenways	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/lwcf/">www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/lwcf/</a>
National Scenic Byway Program	Federal Highway Administration	bicycle and pedestrian facilities	<a href="http://www.byways.org/grants/index.html">www.byways.org/grants/index.html</a>
North America Wetland Conservation Grants	U.S. Department of the Interior	wetland conservation	<a href="http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/grants/nawca/index.shtm">www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/grants/nawca/index.shtm</a>
Recreational Trails Program	Federal Highway Administration	trails	<a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/index.htm">www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/index.htm</a>
Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Assistance Program	National Park Service	conservation of resources	<a href="http://www.nrcr.nps.gov/programs/rtca/ContactUs/cu_apply.html">www.nrcr.nps.gov/programs/rtca/ContactUs/cu_apply.html</a>
Safe Schools / Healthy Students Initiative	Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Education	promote healthy childhood development	<a href="http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/grants/safeschool/content.html">www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/grants/safeschool/content.html</a>
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Act	Federal Highway Administration	bicycle & pedestrian improvements	<a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu/index.htm">www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu/index.htm</a>
Save America's Treasures Historic Preservation Fund	National Park Service & Arts	preservation / conservation	<a href="http://www.saveamericastreasures.org/funding.htm">www.saveamericastreasures.org/funding.htm</a>
Sustainable Development Challenge Grants	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	sustainable community projects	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/ecocommunity/sdcg/">www.epa.gov/ecocommunity/sdcg/</a>
Targeted Watersheds Program	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	sustainable community projects	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/ecocommunity/owow/watershed/initiative/regions.html">www.epa.gov/ecocommunity/owow/watershed/initiative/regions.html</a>
Transportation & Community & System Pilot Program	Federal Highway Administration	planning & implementation of trails	<a href="http://www.fwha.dot.gov/tcsp/">www.fwha.dot.gov/tcsp/</a>
Transportation Enhancements	Federal Highway Administration	trails & bike / ped facilities	<a href="http://www.enhancements.org/">www.enhancements.org/</a>
Urban Park and Recovery Program	National Park Service	parks	<a href="http://www.nrcr.nps.gov/uparr/">www.nrcr.nps.gov/uparr/</a>

**Federal Public Agency Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Agency	Purpose	Website
Value Added Producers Grants	USDA Rural Development	market value added ag products	<a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/GA/vadg.htm">www.rurdev.usda.gov/GA/vadg.htm</a>
Water Quality Research Grants	U.S. Department of Agriculture	water quality impairment	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/smarthgrowth/topics/water_quality_funding.htm">www.epa.gov/smarthgrowth/topics/water_quality_funding.htm</a>
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Grants	Natural Resource Conservation Service	watershed improvements	<a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/index">www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/index</a>
Wetlands Reserve Program	Natural Resource Conservation Service	restore & protect wetlands	<a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WRP/">www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WRP/</a>
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	Natural Resource Conservation Service	develop & improve wildlife habitat	<a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/">www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/</a>

**National Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
American Conservation Association	conservation, river protection & wildlife	1200 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20005
American Express Philanthropic Program	historic & natural assets	<a href="http://home3.americanexpress.com/corp/csr.asp/">http://home3.americanexpress.com/corp/csr.asp/</a>
AmeriCorp's National Civilian Community Conservation Corps	community improvements / trail building	<a href="http://www.americorps.org/about/programs/nccc.asp/">www.americorps.org/about/programs/nccc.asp/</a>
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	conservation	<a href="http://www.mellon.org/">www.mellon.org/</a>
Art & Community Landscapes	community landscapes	<a href="http://www.nefa.org/grantprog/acl/acl_grant_app.html/">www.nefa.org/grantprog/acl/acl_grant_app.html/</a>
Bankamerica Foundation	conservation,, parks, fisheries, education	<a href="http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/">www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/</a>
Bikes Belong Grant Program	bike improvements	<a href="http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants/">www.bikesbelong.org/grants/</a>
Caterpillar Foundation	history & environment	<a href="http://www.cat.com/cda/layout?m=39201&amp;x=7">www.cat.com/cda/layout?m=39201&amp;x=7</a>
Chrysler Corporation Foundation	health & community affairs	<a href="http://www.thechryslerfoundation.com/">www.thechryslerfoundation.com/</a>
Coca-Cola Foundation	community development	<a href="http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/foundation_coke.html/">www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/foundation_coke.html/</a>
Compton Foundation	conservation	<a href="http://www.comptonfoundation.org/">www.comptonfoundation.org/</a>
Davis and Lucille Packard Foundation		<a href="http://www.packard.org/">www.packard.org/</a>
Exxon Mobil Foundation	environment & education	<a href="http://hoe.exxonmobil.com/Corporate/community.aspx">http://hoe.exxonmobil.com/Corporate/community.aspx</a>
Fish America Foundation	fish & water resources enhancement	<a href="http://www.asafishing.org/content/conservation/fishamerica/">www.asafishing.org/content/conservation/fishamerica/</a>
Ford Motor Company Foundation	community development	<a href="http://www.ford.com/our-values/ford-fund-community-service/">www.ford.com/our-values/ford-fund-community-service/</a>
Gannett Foundation		<a href="http://www.gannettfoundation.org/">www.gannettfoundation.org/</a>
General Mills Corporation	history & environment	<a href="http://www.generalmills.com.corporate.commitment/foundation.aspx/">www.generalmills.com.corporate.commitment/foundation.aspx/</a>
General Motors Foundation		<a href="http://www.gm.com/corporate/responsibility/community/">www.gm.com/corporate/responsibility/community/</a>
Harry C. Trexler Trust		33 South Seventh Street, Room 205, Allentown, PA 18101
Home Depot		<a href="http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/Grants">http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/Grants</a>
J.C. Penney		<a href="http://www.jcpenny.net/company/commrel/index.htm/">www.jcpenny.net/company/commrel/index.htm/</a>
John D. and Catherine MacArthur Foundation		<a href="http://www.macfound.org/">www.macfound.org/</a>

**National Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation		<a href="http://www.knightfoundation.org/">www.knightfoundation.org/</a>
Kodak American Greenways Awards Program	greenways	<a href="http://www.grants.conservationfund.org/tcf/public/viewAwards.action/">www.grants.conservationfund.org/tcf/public/viewAwards.action/</a>
Kresge Foundation	challenge grants	<a href="http://www.kresge.org/">www.kresge.org/</a>
L.L. Bean, Inc.		<a href="http://www.llbean.com/customerservice/aboutLLBean/charitable_giving.html/">www.llbean.com/customerservice/aboutLLBean/charitable_giving.html/</a>
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation		<a href="http://www.nfwf.org/">www.nfwf.org/</a>
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Native Plant Conservation Initiative	Preference for "on-the-ground" projects that provide plant conservation benefit according to the priorities established by one or more of the funding federal agencies and to the Plant Conservation Alliance strategies for plant conservation.	<a href="http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&amp;TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&amp;CONTENTID=15393">http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&amp;TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&amp;CONTENTID=15393</a>
National Football League	To improve the quality, safety, and accessibility of local football fields	<a href="http://www.sportsphilanthropyproject.com/assets/library/647_2009nflrfp.pdf">http://www.sportsphilanthropyproject.com/assets/library/647_2009nflrfp.pdf</a>
New-Land Foundation	environment	114 Avenue of the Americas, 46th Floor, New York, New York, 10036
Norcross Wildlife Foundation	land & habitat conservation	<a href="http://www.norcrossws.org/">www.norcrossws.org/</a>
Oracle Corporate Giving Program	can include greenways	<a href="http://www.oracle.com/corporate/giving/community/index.html?giving.html">www.oracle.com/corporate/giving/community/index.html?giving.html</a>
Pepsico Foundation		<a href="http://www.pepsico.com/PEP_citizenship/Contributions/GrantGuidelines/index.cfm/">www.pepsico.com/PEP_citizenship/Contributions/GrantGuidelines/index.cfm/</a>
Polaris 'T.R.A.I.L.S.' Grant Program	motorized trails	<a href="http://www.pi54.com/ATV/PDFs/TRAILSGrantAppForm.pdf">www.pi54.com/ATV/PDFs/TRAILSGrantAppForm.pdf</a>
Private Foundation	National	<a href="http://www.tourismcaresfortomorrow.org/">www.tourismcaresfortomorrow.org/</a>
Proctor Gamble Foundation		<a href="http://www.pg.com/company/our_commitment/community/jhtml/">www.pg.com/company/our_commitment/community/jhtml/</a>
Recreational Equipment Company		<a href="http://www.rei.com/reigives/">www.rei.com/reigives/</a>
Robert Woods Johnson Foundation	health & physical activity	<a href="http://www.rwjf.org/">www.rwjf.org/</a>
Rockefeller Family Fund	environment	<a href="http://www.rffund.org/">www.rffund.org/</a>
Sony Corporation of America Foundation		<a href="http://www.sony.com/SCA/philanthropy/guidelines.shtml/">www.sony.com/SCA/philanthropy/guidelines.shtml/</a>
Surdna Foundation		<a href="http://www.surdna.org/">www.surdna.org/</a>
Texaco Foundation	environment	<a href="http://www.chveron.com/globalissues/economiccommunitydevelopment/">www.chveron.com/globalissues/economiccommunitydevelopment/</a>

**National Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
The Global Relief Heritage Forest Program	tree seedlings on public lands	<a href="http://www.americanforests.org/global_relief/grants/">www.americanforests.org/global_relief/grants/</a>
The Nathan Cummings Foundation	conservation	<a href="http://www.nathancummings.org/">www.nathancummings.org/</a>
Turner Foundation	watershed protection	<a href="http://www.turnerfoundation.org/">www.turnerfoundation.org/</a>
W.K. Kellogg Foundation	community development	<a href="http://www.wkkf.org/">www.wkkf.org/</a>
Wallace Reader's Digest Funds	education	<a href="http://www.wallacefoundation.org/">www.wallacefoundation.org/</a>
Walmart Foundation		<a href="http://www.walmartstores.com/community/">www.walmartstores.com/community/</a>
Walmart and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Acres for America	Conservation of important habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants through acquisition of interest in real property	<a href="http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&amp;Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&amp;TPLID=60&amp;ContentID=15286">http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&amp;Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&amp;TPLID=60&amp;ContentID=15286</a>
William Penn Foundation	environment	<a href="http://www.wpennfdn.org/">www.wpennfdn.org/</a>
Yamaha OHV G.R.A.N.T. Initiative	motorized trails	<a href="http://www.yamaha-motor.com/outdoor/OHV_Grants/OHVGRANTS_%20Guidelines_Application.pdf">www.yamaha-motor.com/outdoor/OHV_Grants/OHVGRANTS_%20Guidelines_Application.pdf</a>

**State Public Agency Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Agency	Purpose	Website
Act 167 Enactment and Implementation	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	watershed restoration	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/">www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/</a>
Boating Facilities Grants	Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission	boating facilities	<a href="http://www.fish.state.pa.us/promo/grants/boat_fac/00boatfac.htm">www.fish.state.pa.us/promo/grants/boat_fac/00boatfac.htm</a>
Certified Local Government Grants	Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission	cultural surveys / interpretation	<a href="http://www.artsnet.org/phmc/pdf/clg_app.pdf">www.artsnet.org/phmc/pdf/clg_app.pdf</a>
Coldwater Heritage Conservation Grant	Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, PA DCNR, PA Fish & Boat Commission	conservation of coldwater streams	<a href="http://www.coldwaterheritage.org">www.coldwaterheritage.org</a>
Community Conservation Partnership Program	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	greenways, trails, & parks, acquisition, planning, development, circuit rider	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx</a>
Community Development Block Grant	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	infrastructure / community facilities	<a href="http://www.newpa.com/programDetail.aspx?id=71">www.newpa.com/programDetail.aspx?id=71</a>
Community Revitalization Program	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	quality of life	<a href="http://www.newpa.com/programDetail.aspx?id=72">www.newpa.com/programDetail.aspx?id=72</a>
Dirt and Gravel Road Program	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	reduction of non-point source pollution	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/">www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/</a>
Environmental Education Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Environmental Education	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/enved/cwp/">www.depweb.state.pa.us/enved/cwp/</a>
Flood Protection Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	flood prevention	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/">www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/</a>
Growing Greener Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	conservation of resources	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/growinggreener">www.depweb.state.pa.us/growinggreener</a>
Heritage Area Grants	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	specific to designated heritage areas	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx</a>
Hometown Streets & Safe Routes to Schools	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	bicycle and pedestrian improvements	<a href="http://www.dot.state.pa.us/penndot/Bureaus/CPDM/Prod/Saferoute.nsf">http://www.dot.state.pa.us/penndot/Bureaus/CPDM/Prod/Saferoute.nsf</a>
Keystone Historic Preservation Grants	Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission	preservation / restoration	<a href="http://www.artsnet.org/phmc/pdf/kph_app.pdf">www.artsnet.org/phmc/pdf/kph_app.pdf</a>
Land Recycling Grants Program	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	remediation	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=71">www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=71</a>
Land Use Planning & Technical Assistance Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	community planning	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=72">www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=72</a>
Main Street Program	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	economic growth / community	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=79">www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/detail.aspx?id=79</a>
Non-Point Source Management Section 319	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	watershed restoration	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/">www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/</a>
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	transportation projects	<a href="http://www.dot.state.pa.us/bureaus/PIB.nsf/homepagePIB?OpenForm">www.dot.state.pa.us/bureaus/PIB.nsf/homepagePIB?OpenForm</a>
Pennsylvania Recreational Trails Program	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	greenways, trails, & parks, acquisition, planning, development, circuit rider	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/general02.aspx</a>
Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Improvements	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	see program guidelines	<a href="http://www.budget.state.pa.us/budget/lib/budget/racp/appmat/applicationhandbook.pdf">www.budget.state.pa.us/budget/lib/budget/racp/appmat/applicationhandbook.pdf</a>
Single Application Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	see program guidelines	<a href="https://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us/ESAW/">https://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us/ESAW/</a>
Treevitalize	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources	planting of trees	<a href="http://www.treevitalize.net">www.treevitalize.net</a>
Urban & Community Forestry Grants	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources	planting of trees	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/pucfc/">www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/pucfc/</a>
Water Resource Education Network (WREN) Grants	Pennsylvania Water Resources Education Network	community based educational projects that protect and	<a href="http://wren.palwv.org/grants/grants_wren.html">http://wren.palwv.org/grants/grants_wren.html</a>

**State Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
Alcoa Foundation	economic development & quality of life	<a href="http://www.alcoa.com/global/en/community/foundation/overview.asp/">www.alcoa.com/global/en/community/foundation/overview.asp/</a>
Asland Oil Foundation		<a href="http://www.ashland.com/commitments/contributions.asp/">www.ashland.com/commitments/contributions.asp/</a>
Bayer Foundation		<a href="http://www.bayer.com/en/bayer-foundations.aspx/">www.bayer.com/en/bayer-foundations.aspx/</a>
Bozzone Family Foundation	quality of life	311 Hillcrest Drive, New Kensington, PA 15068-2318
Bridge Builders Foundation		<a href="http://www.bridgebuildersfoundation.org/aboutus/index.htm/">www.bridgebuildersfoundation.org/aboutus/index.htm/</a>
Deluxe Corporation		<a href="http://www.deluxe.com/dlxab/deluxe-foundation.jsp/">www.deluxe.com/dlxab/deluxe-foundation.jsp/</a>
Dominion Foundation	economic development & environment	<a href="http://www.dom.com/about/community/foundation/index.jsp/">www.dom.com/about/community/foundation/index.jsp/</a>
Ganassi Foundation		100 RIDC PLZ, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Giant Eagle Foundation		101 Kappa Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
H.J. Heinz Foundation		<a href="http://www.heinz.com/foundation.aspx/">www.heinz.com/foundation.aspx/</a>
Heinz Endowments	Environment	<a href="http://www.heinz.org/">www.heinz.org/</a>
Highmark Foundation		<a href="http://www.highmark.com/hmk2/community/hmfoundation/index.shtml/">www.highmark.com/hmk2/community/hmfoundation/index.shtml/</a>
Hillman Foundation	quality of life	<a href="http://www.hillmanfdn.org/">www.hillmanfdn.org/</a>
Hunt Foundation	focus on good of the region	<a href="http://www.rahuntdn.org/">www.rahuntdn.org/</a>
Juliet Lea Hillman Simonds Foundation		330 Grant Street, Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation	environment	P.O. Box 186, Latrobe, PA 15650
Massey Charitable Trust		1370 Washington Pike, Suite 306, Bridgeville, PA 15017-2839
McCune Foundation	community development	<a href="http://www.mccune.org/">www.mccune.org/</a>
Millstein Charitable Foundation		P.O. Box K, Youngwood, PA 15697

**State Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
Milton G. Hulme Charitable Trust		1146 Old Freeport Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Mine Safety Appliances Company Charitable Trust		<a href="http://www.msanorthamerica.com/communityrelations.html/">www.msanorthamerica.com/communityrelations.html/</a>
National City Bank Foundation		<a href="http://www.nationalcity.com/about-us/community/community-relations/pages/charitable-giving.asp">www.nationalcity.com/about-us/community/community-relations/pages/charitable-giving.asp</a>
Pennsylvania Snowmobile Association Mini-grant Program	motorized trails	www.pasnow.org/PSSA%20Trail%20Grant%20Package.prn.pdf
Pew Charitable Trusts	environment & community development	<a href="http://www.pewtrusts.org/">www.pewtrusts.org/</a>
Pittsburgh Foundation		<a href="http://www.pittsburghfoundation.org/">www.pittsburghfoundation.org/</a>
PNC Bank Foundation		<a href="https://www.pnc.com/webapp/unsec/ProductsAndService.do?siteArea=/PNC/Home/About+PNC/Our+Organization/Community+Involvement/PNC+Foundation/PNC">https://www.pnc.com/webapp/unsec/ProductsAndService.do?siteArea=/PNC/Home/About+PNC/Our+Organization/Community+Involvement/PNC+Foundation/PNC</a>
PPG Industries Foundation		<a href="http://corporateportal.ppg.com/PPG/PPGIndustriesFoundation/">http://corporateportal.ppg.com/PPG/PPGIndustriesFoundation/</a>
Richard King Mellon Foundation	environment	<a href="http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/rkmellon/">http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/rkmellon/</a>
Rockwell International Corporation Trust Fund		<a href="http://www.rockwellautomation.com/about_us/neighbor/giving.html/">www.rockwellautomation.com/about_us/neighbor/giving.html/</a>
Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation	education & environment	<a href="http://www.snee-reinhardt.org/">www.snee-reinhardt.org/</a>
The Bank of New York Mellon		One Mellon Center, Room 1830, Pittsburgh, PA 15258
United States Steel Foundation		<a href="http://www.uss.com/corp/ussfoundation/">www.uss.com/corp/ussfoundation/</a>
W. Dale Brougner Foundation	conservation, ecology, history, & arts	1200 Country Club Road, York, PA 17403
Washington Federal Charitable Trust		<a href="http://www.washfed.com/charity.htm/">www.washfed.com/charity.htm/</a>
Westinghouse Foundation	quality of life	<a href="http://www.westinghouse.com/charitablegiving/giving.htm/">www.westinghouse.com/charitablegiving/giving.htm/</a>
Emporium Foundation, Inc.	Cameron, Elk Counties	2 East 4th Street, Emporium, PA 15834-1443
Walker Foundation Trust	Clearfield County	P.O. Box 171, Clearfield, PA 16830-0171
Charles I. Blake Family Foundation	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 1046, DuBois, PA 15801-1046

**State Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Website</b>
Dickey Foundation	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 1084, DuBois, PA 15801-1084
Gray Family Foundation	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 1046, DuBois, PA 15801-1046
The Ideal Foundation	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	735 Maple Avenue, DuBois, PA 15801-2385
Esther M. Martin Memorial Fund	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 247, DuBois, PA 15801-0247
J. & R. Doverspike Charitable Foundation	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 220, Indiana, PA 15701-0220
Little Leo Cloub of Punxutawney	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 472, Punxutawney, PA 16767-0472
Calvin Z. Bean Community Service Fund	Clearfield, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 213, Reynoldsville, PA 15851-0213
Revington Authur Foundation, Inc.	Clearfield County	809 Cornwall Road, State College, PA 16803-1431
The Hamer Foundation	Clearfield County	2470 Fox Hill Road, State College, PA 16803-1729
The Huck Charitable Foundation	Clearfield County	233 Lion's Hill Road, State College, PA 16803-3477
Charles H. & Annetta R. Masland Foundation	Clearfield County	497 Orlando Avenue, State College, PA 16803-3477
The James B. & Eileen Ryan Family Foundation	Elk County	357 Bruxelles Street, St. Marys, PA 15857-1505
John Schwab Foundation	Elk County	P.O. Box 57, Selinsgrove, PA 16735-1326
Kane Community Development Foundation, Inc.	Elk, McKean Counties	38 Fraley Street, Kane, PA 16735-1326
The Stepping Stone Foundation	Elk County	5902 Ridgway-Johnsburg Road, Johnsonburg, PA 15845-2624
Elk County Community Foundation	Elk County	111 Erie Avenue, P.O. Box 934, St. Marys, PA 15857-1410
Dennis & Rose Heindl Family Foundation	Elk, Jefferson Counties	P.O. Box 146, Ridgway, PA 15853-1209
St. Marys Catholic Foundation	Elk County	251 State Street, St. Marys, PA 15857-1658
Muriel Dauer Stackpole Foundation	Elk County	P.O. Box 1992, St. Marys, PA 15857-1992

**State Foundation Grant and Funding Opportunities**

Program	Purpose	Website
Stackpole Hall Foundation	Elk County	44 St. Marys Street, St. Marys, PA 15857-1667
Richard L. & Janet M. Wolfe Family Foundation	Elk County	243 Taft Road, St. Marys, PA 15857-3471
Glenn & Ruth Mengle Foundation	Jefferson County	P.O. Box 1046, DuBois, PA 15801-1046
N. Robert Moore Charitable Trust	Jefferson County	P.O. Box 247, DuBois, PA 15801-0247
Thomas L. Barletta Charitable Foundation	Jefferson County	620 Liberty Avenue, P2-PTPP-10-2, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2705
Philo & Sarah Blaisdell Foundation	McKean County	410 Seneca Building, Bradford, PA 16701
Glendorn Foundation	McKean County	78 Main Street, Bradford, PA 16701
Mukaiyama-Rice Foundation	McKean County	P.O. Box 547, Bradford, PA 16701-0547
Pembroke Foundation	McKean County	P.O. Box 264, Bradford, PA 16701-0264
The Walrus Foundation, Inc.	McKean County	P.O. Box 363, Bradford, PA 16701-0363
Hannah L. Hamlin Memorial Fund	McKean County	333 West Main Street, Smethport, PA 16749
Arthur T. Cantwell Charitable Trust	Potter County	10 North Main Street, Coudersport, PA 16915
Andrew Kaul Foundation, Inc.	Potter County	10 North Main Street, Coudersport, PA 16915
Potter County Historical Society	Potter County	308 North Main Street, Coudersport, PA 16915
Marian J. Wettrick Charitable Foundation	Potter County	10 North Main Street, Coudersport, PA 16915
Gale Community Foundation	Potter County	09-92 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA 16901