

Making Plans for Michigan's Land and Water

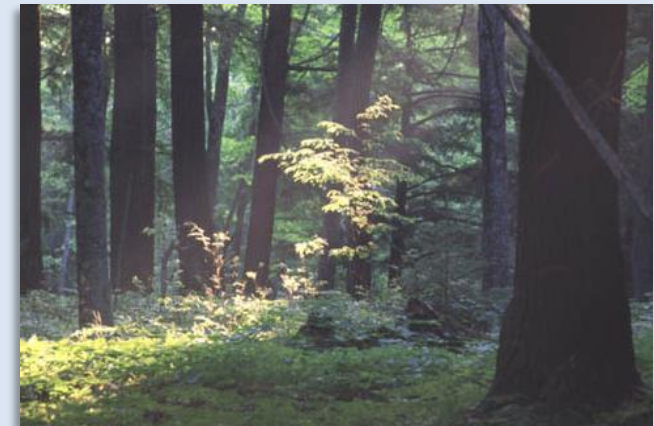


DNR Director Keith Creagh

Assets, Issues, and Innovation



- What are Michigan's natural resource assets?
- Where do we have sustainable examples of natural resource development?
- How can we be proactive?
- Where can we invest strategically?
- What does natural resource innovation look like?



Michigan's Land



Green spaces abound.....

- 10 million acres of farm land
- 20 million acres of forest land
- 4.6 million acres of public land



Michigan's Land



- The award-winning state parks host 22 million visitors each year at 101 parks
- Michigan State Parks rank second in overnight visitors
- Michigan has more rails-to-trails miles than any other state in the nation.



Michigan's Water



- 90% of the country's fresh water
- 20% of the world's fresh water
- Four Great Lakes, 11,000 inland lakes and 36,000 miles of rivers and streams



Michigan's Water



- Number 1 state for fly-fishing, Field & Stream magazine (2011)
- Lake St. Clair named best bass-fishing lake in the nation, Bassmaster magazine (2013)



Michigan's Water



- 1,000-plus state-managed boat launches
- More than 80 harbors
- 3rd in the nation for the number of registered boats



Sustainable Natural Resource Development



- State forests contribute 40% of timber to the state's \$14 billion forest products industry
- Dual certified state forests
- 13 percent % of Michigan's natural gas storage on state land



Sustainable Natural Resource Development



- Oil and gas revenue nearly \$2 billion
- Commercial fisheries 3,606,000 pounds of fish with dockside value of \$5,511,000
- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund





Funding Natural Resource Management



- Natural resources funded by fees and taxes paid by hunters, anglers, state park users and others
- Current general tax dollar funding for natural resources amounts to just a little more than a half-a-penny a day for each Michigan citizen.
- How can we broaden the base of support?

Current and Future Generations



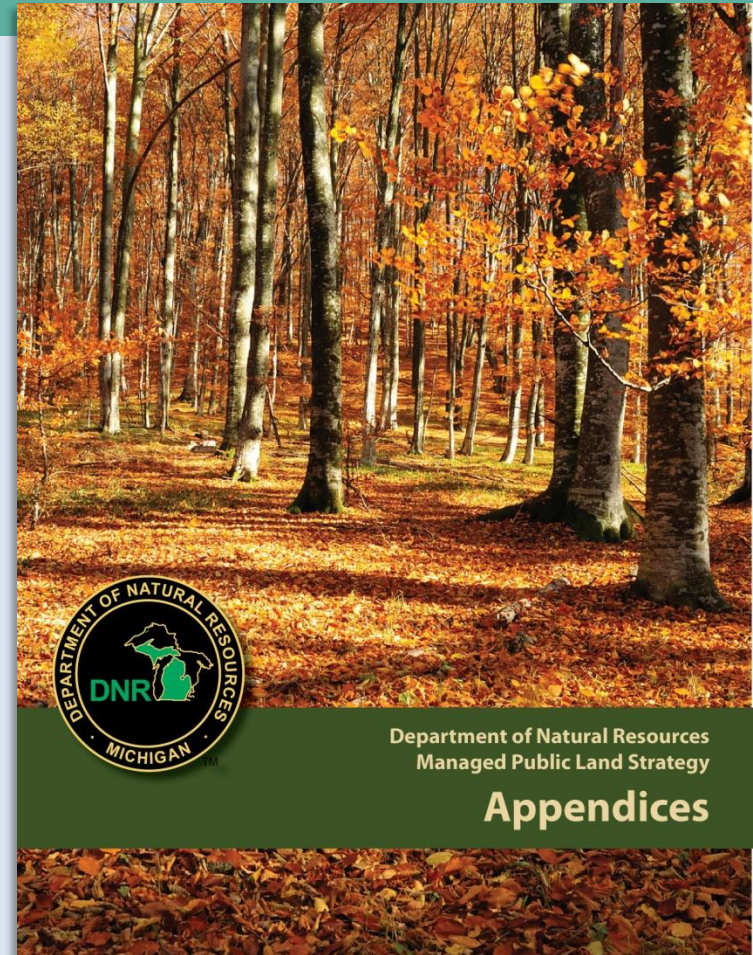
- Habitat protection
- Productive ecosystems
- Economic Health
- Quality of life
- Adaptive management



Proactive Strategies: Planning



- Michigan's Land Plan
- Michigan's Water Plan
- Integration



Proactive Strategies: License Restructuring



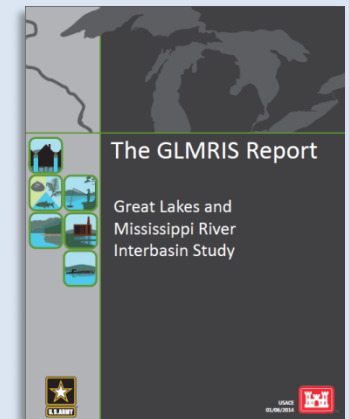
- Making Michigan's hunting, fishing and ORV licenses more simple, fair and efficient.
- From 227 license types to just over 40
- Additional resources will go to boots on the ground, waders in the water, eyes in the field
- Habitat improvement via local partners



Proactive Strategies: Asian carp



- Prevent bighead and silver carp from entering the Great Lakes basin
- Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study
- Michigan is playing a leadership role – regionally, nationally and internationally



Making a Difference with Strategic Investments



Stopping the Invasion

- \$14 million over two years to protect land and water against harmful invasive species
- Partnerships in Cooperative Weed Management Areas
- Research and assessment to better prevent & detect
- No longer passive!



Making a Difference with Strategic Investments



Great Lakes Assessment and Management

- Shift in the Lake Huron and Lake Michigan foodweb and fisheries
- Importance in knowledge for response
- New research vessel



Making a Difference with Strategic Investments



Habitat Rehabilitation and Protection

- Fisheries Habitat grants (\$1million)
- Wildlife Habitat grants (\$650,000)
- Dam Grant program (\$350,000)



Innovations



- Managing Belle Isle as a state park: Belle Isle, the Detroit Riverfront, the Globe Building.
- Helping to revitalize Detroit by improving quality of life



Innovations



- Recreation corridor along the Grand River – from Portland to Grand Haven
- Driving economic development in towns along the way



Innovations



- Continue making Michigan *the* Trail State
- Complete 10 priority trail connections identified in Land Strategy and Comprehensive Trail Plan
- Increase overnight leisure travel for outdoor sports activities by 5%
- Complete the Showcase Trail by fall 2017



Natural Resources



- Will help drive Michigan's renaissance
- Jobs
- Quality of life
- Kids





Action is Key



“While putting these strategies in place is key, there are also actions we know we won’t regret under any plan, and we need to take those now.”

Governor Rick Snyder, Special Message on Energy and the Environment, November, 2012

Thank You



Questions?

