



5 | RECREATION INVENTORY

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This chapter includes a recreation inventory for each of the 13 individual parks comprising the Metroparks system. In order to complete the inventory of park infrastructure, natural areas, facilities, programs, and cultural histories, the Planning Department collaborated with staff in the Operations, Interpretive Services, Natural Resources, and Engineering departments. Working with staff at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Planning Department recently reviewed and confirmed the boundaries of encumbered land within each park. Accessibility evaluations for park facilities were conducted by Planning staff through field work using resources suggested in the MDNR Guidelines and tools purchased for that specific purpose.

The following items are provided for each Metropark:

- Park information page explaining the general location, classification, size, function, and history of the park, along with tables detailing trail miles, facility counts, and neighboring municipality master plans.
- Park map showing the land, water resources, and major facilities in the park.
- Biodiversity map outlining the location of critical natural resources, explained on the following page.
- Map of land encumbered by various grants, including the Land & Water Conservation Fund and the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.
- Table showing grant details and current conditions.
- Broad findings of staff's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) evaluation for facilities at each park (detailed assessments are provided in an Appendix).

Finally, the Planning Department conducted an analysis of state and county parks and recreation facilities. A location

map and chart identifying specific facilities and activities within each park is included for each of the five counties within the Metroparks service area. The location map also highlights other selected private and public recreational facilities in context of the state, county, and Metroparks resources.



BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life present in a given area, often measured by number and distribution of species. It is important to preserve because it provides humans with ecological services such as clean water and oxygen, leads to greater resistance and resilience during natural and human-caused disturbances, and reduces the risk of disease.

Identifying biodiversity areas can help inform the development of current and future park amenities, allowing the Metroparks to fulfill its mandate and mission statement of protecting the natural resources of the communities it serves. Development within biodiversity areas is carefully reviewed to minimize unnecessary disruption.

The following criteria for determining biodiversity areas were adapted from a matrix that the Natural Resources Department uses to determine work priorities throughout the park system.



Metric	What	Why	Metric	What	Why
Elemental Occurrence	the presence of a species under legal protection, or of a complete system recognized as in condition similar to pre-settlement	statutory, occurrences protected by law from intentional take	Percent Invasive Species Cover	percentage of total acreage with invasive plant coverage	areas with few invasive species require less work, have greater return on investment
FQA (Floristic Quality Assessment)	presence of plant species likely to occur in conditions similar to pre-settlement	determines the ecological value of a system based on its floral assemblage	Community Ranking	rank assigned by the state due to natural community rarity or rate of decline	assesses the vulnerability of each natural community within the state
FQI Connectivity	the presence of a quality habitat (greater than 35 FQI) within 100 feet of another	connected habitats provide diverse resources and facilitate migration, increase species fitness	Wetlands	the presence of wetlands	wetlands tend to have greatest diversity, and are also critical to promote healthy water resources
Size	acreage of the habitat in question	large habitats provide more diverse resources and facilitate migration, increase species fitness, resilience	Habitat Connectivity	the presence of a complementary habitat within 100 feet of another	connected wetlands promote genetic diversity conservation and water quality

ACCESSIBILITY

A limited accessibility evaluation was conducted by planning and operations staff to determine the state of the system as a whole and inform goals for the future. The evaluation was based on the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design¹ and focused on accessible parking, pathways, and the recreational facilities highlighted in the 2010 Standards: boat launches, fishing piers, playgrounds, golf courses, and pools. More detailed analyses of the facilities and the interior of buildings may be conducted at a later date.

For a general sense of the accessibility of recreation throughout the system, each park was analyzed and mapped using Google Earth for the existence of paved routes leading from accessible parking to the area(s) of use. The existence of pavement alone does not constitute an accessible route, as slope, width, and evenness requirements must also be met. However, this allowed for identification of areas where no paved route was present. These are presented on maps for each park. In order to achieve compliance, pavement would have to be added or the area would have to be otherwise redesigned.

Next, checklists from the New England ADA Center² were adapted and used in field evaluations of specific facilities in the parks. The checklist results were used to develop a rating for each facility, shown in a table for each park. The rating system is as follows:

- 1 — no elements are accessible
- 2 — some elements are accessible
- 3 — most elements are accessible
- 4 — all elements are accessible
- 5 — facility follows Universal Design³ principles

Finally, all the results were consolidated and used to form goals for the park system's future accessibility. These are described in the Goals and Objectives section of the plan. The full park facility checklists and accessibility maps can be found in the appendix.



¹ United States Access Board, <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards/ada-standards>

² ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities, <http://www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html#rec>

³ From the Centre for Excellence in Universal Design (www.universaldesign.ie): "Universal Design is the design and composition of an environment so that it can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of their age, size, ability or disability. An environment (or any building, product, or service in that environment) should be designed to meet the needs of all people who wish to use it. This is not a special requirement, for the benefit of only a minority of the population. It is a fundamental condition of good design. If an environment is accessible, usable, convenient and a pleasure to use, everyone benefits. By considering the diverse needs and abilities of all throughout the design process, universal design creates products, services and environments that meet peoples' needs. Simply put, universal design is good design."

INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYSIS

Historically, the Metroparks took a reactionary approach to infrastructure management, making repairs and improvements to buildings, roads, and other systems only when issues arose. When it became evident that this method had become ineffective, HCMA staff initiated a more proactive approach. In 2010, the Engineering Department began utilizing roadway asset management software (Roadsoft) to prioritize transportation-related projects based on age and wear-and-tear.¹ To build upon this effort, a roof management program was established in 2013, and a picnic shelter assessment was conducted in 2014. A Geographic Information System (GIS) database was developed, enabling engineering and planning staff to map property lines, natural features, built features, and utilities, among other assets.

At present, there exists a fair amount of knowledge about the roofs, buildings, roads, trails, and park structures (e.g. picnic shelters, boat launches) throughout the Metroparks. These assets have been determined by the Engineering Department to be in good condition, save for the known replacements needed (e.g. Lower Huron park office, Kensington park office). Assets requiring further investigation to determine condition include the various boardwalks and all underground infrastructure throughout the park system.

In late 2016, HCMA was awarded over \$1.9M in Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW) Program grant funding. Per the grant requirements, this funding is to be expended over three years, and it will be used to conduct an inventory and conditions assessment of the Metroparks sanitary infrastructure (e.g. pump systems, septic systems, pipes, manholes) for the purpose of building an asset management database. Consultants will be hired to conduct the inventory and assessment and to recommend a software system for housing the acquired data. By implementing this project, HCMA has an opportunity to begin taking a more comprehensive approach to asset management by incorporating asset classes into the newly-developed database over time. Asset classes relevant to the Metroparks would include:

- Sanitary
- Buildings (envelope, electric, plumbing)
- Roads
- Parking lots
- Trails (by type)
- Bridges (by type)
- Electrical supply/grid
- Communication (fiber optic, copper)
- Park structures (e.g. picnic shelters, playgrounds, boardwalks, tollbooths)
- Water (including wells)
- Dams
- Shoreline protection (e.g. seawalls, riprap areas)
- Natural features (Michigan Natural Features Inventory categories)
- Stormwater systems

As indicated in the *21st Century Infrastructure Commission Report*² released in late 2016 by the Michigan Infrastructure Commission, “strategic investments in preventative maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of infrastructure assets is much more cost-effective than reconstructing the ‘worst first.’” Once inventories are completed for each asset class, it will be possible for HCMA staff to more fully comprehend the system-wide deferred infrastructure maintenance burden and prioritize projects accordingly, based on available resources.



¹ Initially, only roads were included in the Roadsoft system. As of 2017, the system will be expanded to include paved, shared-use trails throughout the Metroparks system.

² State of Michigan Governor's website, http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/21st_Century_Infrastructure_Commission_Report_555079_7.pdf

LAKE ST. CLAIR METROPARK

Lake St. Clair Metropark is located on the eastern edge of Macomb County, just south of Anchor Bay. All of the park is within Harrison Township.

At its northernmost extent, Lake St. Clair Metropark nearly reaches South River Road. To the east it runs along the Black Creek, to the west it extends to Jefferson, and its southern boundary is Lake St. Clair. The park is situated on the mouth of the Clinton River.

Lake St. Clair hosts several activities, especially water recreation, boating, birdwatching, and picnics. The park's scenic Huron Point extending into the lake makes it unique, along with the 50-meter swimming pool, splash pad, and beautiful nature trails.

Cultural History

The majority of Lake St. Clair Metropark property was a Great Lakes Coastal marsh. It was used by Native Americans and early settlers for fishing, hunting, and trapping. Because the soil was mostly wetland within the boundaries of the park, there were no permanent homesteads. The sandy ridge naturally created a beach that was an important resting place for travelers in canoes and for migrating birds. Various rare species of birds such as the now-endangered Piping Plover and now-threatened Common Tern nested on the point and the island.

Journals and records remain from Henry Schoolcraft and David Bates Douglas from a stop at Huron Point during their Voyageur Canoe expedition to the upper Great Lakes.

Activities

- Swimming in the pool or lake
- Relaxing on the beach
- Splashing in the Squirt Zone
- Birdwatching
- Boating and fishing
- Skiing, sledding, ice skating, and ice fishing in the winter
- Observing nature on the trails
- Enjoying a round of golf, foot golf, or adventure golf
- Kiteboarding and windsurfing

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	789
Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	8 / 43
Service bldgs / avg age	13 / 46
Comfort stations ¹ / avg age	6 / 35
Road miles	5.08
Parking lot acreage	36.54
Playgrounds	2
Percent of park mowed	20
Picnic shelters	12
Sand volleyball courts	10
Baseball fields	1
Fishing platforms	2
Tennis courts	4
Ice skating rinks	2
Basketball courts	4
Public canoe/kayak launches	1

Path & Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	3.74
Nature Trails	2.14
Rustic Hiking Trails	0
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	1.85
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	5.77
Total	13.5

Community Plans

Harrison Township	
Waterfront Redevelopment Plan	2015
DDA Development Plan and Tax Increment Finance Plan	2015
Community Park, Recreation, Open Space & Greenway plan	2012
Master Plan	2010



¹A comfort station is a detached restroom building equipped with plumbing. The number does not include restrooms incorporated into other buildings or pit toilets without plumbing.

Figure 5.1 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Biodiversity

Figure 5.2 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.3 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MIGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name—Grants	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
TF87-085	Metro Beach Nature Center	1987	Development	Closed	\$ 225,000.00	Nature Center plans renovations/facility standardization
CM00-067	Metro Beach Pointe Shoreline Trail	2000	Development	Closed	\$ 450,000.00	General maintenance to railing/benches
TF12-057	Lake St. Clair Metropark Land Acquisition	2012	Acquisition	Closed	\$ 94,000.00	No conversion, boundary maintained within park

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - Point	4
Boat Launch	2
Daysail	3
Shore Marina	2
South Marina	3
Golf Course	4
Pool	4



KENSINGTON METROPARK

Kensington Metropark is located on the border of Livingston and Oakland counties in Southeast Michigan. The park sits in the southern portion of both counties. Most of the park is located within Milford Township, but Brighton and Lyon Townships also contain portions of the park, and Green Oak Township contains less than an acre.

At its northernmost extent, Kensington reaches Mill Pond. To the east it reaches beyond Old Plank Road, its western boundary is Kensington Road, and to the south it extends just past I-96 to Grand River. The park is situated on the Upper Huron River and contains most of the dammed, 1,200-acre Kent Lake. A trail connects the park to Island Lake State Recreation Area to the south and Proud Lake Recreation Area to the east, along with Camp Dearborn to the north.

Kensington is the largest Metropark, with a wide variety of recreational activities available. Its long hike-bike trails, sprawling forests, Kent Lake, and facilities such as the Farm Center and Nature Center make it extremely popular.

Cultural History

The park is named after the town of Kensington, which was founded in 1832 and located on the Huron River at the Detroit-Lansing toll road (later Grand River). It was once a bustling settlement, serving travelers with a bank, hotels, and taverns. The bank is known for producing its own independent notes in 1838. The fallout from this, along with the lack of a railroad stop, contributed to the town's decline. By the 1930s it was a ghost town.

The Labadie brothers of Detroit spent several years in the area surrounding Kensington. Jo Labadie, an early labor leader, spent his summers here from 1912 to 1933. The remains of his summer home can be seen along the Aspen Trail. Jo's brothers, Oliver and Hubert, ran a fishing lodge and filmed several silent movies. The most notorious residents of the area were the Purple Gang, prohibition era gangsters.

Activities

- Swimming and splashing at Martindale Beach
- Biking or strolling the paved trails, equestrian trails
- Skiing, ice skating, sledding, and tobogganing in winter
- Golfing and disc golfing
- Walking the nature and hiking trails
- Fireworks, maple sugaring, horse drawn wagon rides
- Paddling, boating and Island Queen ferry on Kent Lake

- Farm Center and Nature Center

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	4486

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	12 / 26
Service bldgs / avg age	16 / 42
Comfort stations / avg age	9 / 28
Road miles	14.9
Parking lot acreage	37.83
Playgrounds	20
Percent of park mowed	8.8
Picnic shelters	18
Sand volleyball courts	8
Baseball fields	7
Fishing platforms	5
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	2
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	3

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	13.55
Nature Trails	7.09
Rustic Hiking Trails	6.19
Equestrian Trails	17.4
Cross Country Ski Trails	11.09
Mountain Bike Trails	2.09
Other Paths	17.4
Total	74.81

Community Plans

Milford Township	
Recreation Master Plan	2012
Milford Community Master Plan	2009

Brighton Township	
Master Plan	2014
East Grand River Corridor Plan	2006
Pathways Plan	2006

Lyon Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2014
Master Plan	2012
Lyon Center Vision Plan	2009

Green Oak Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2015
Master Plan	2014

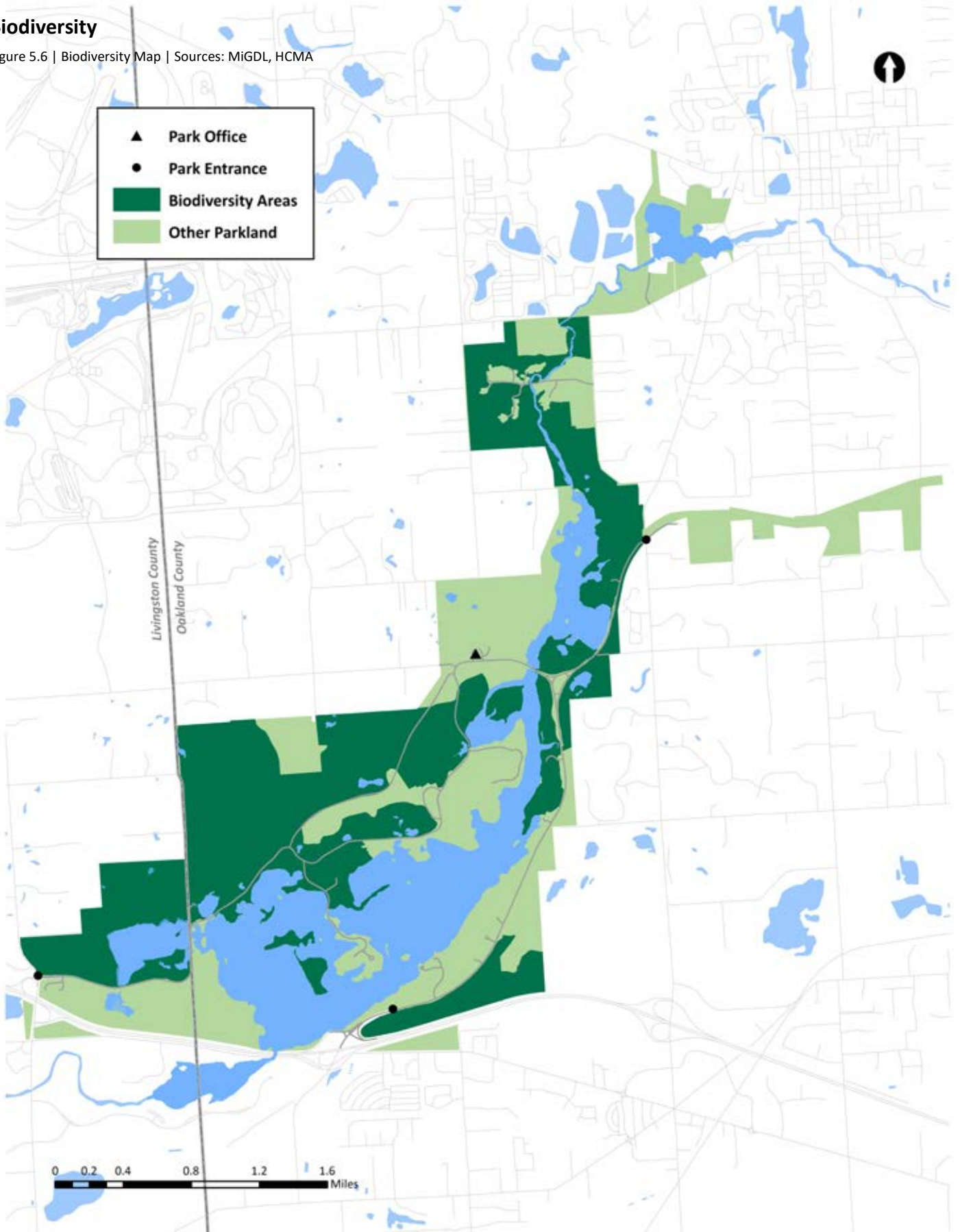
Park Overview

Figure 5.5 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



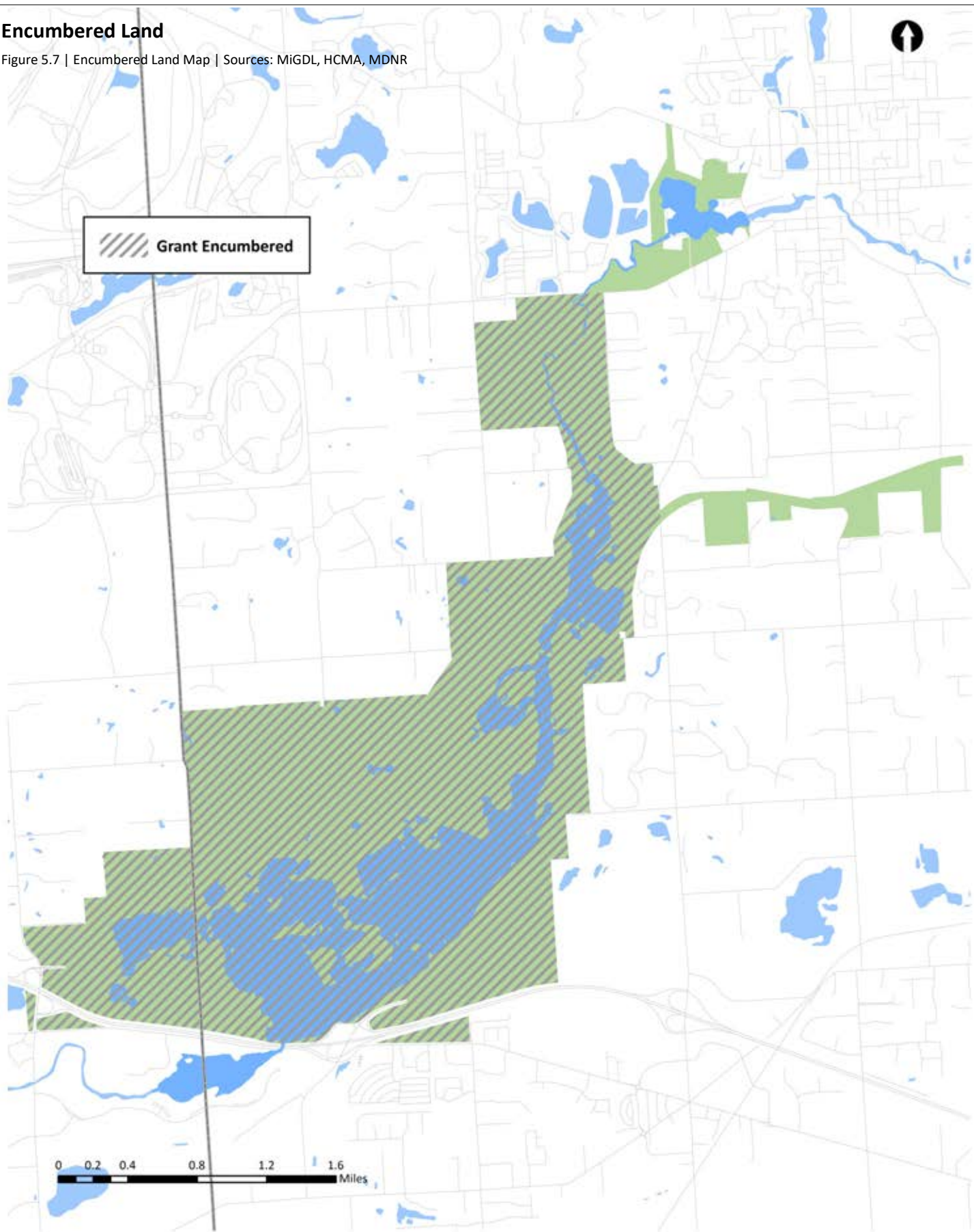
Biodiversity

Figure 5.6 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.7 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
26-00169	Kensington Metropark #2	1969	Acquisition	Closed	\$ 45,937.50	Still maintained as park
26-00146	Kensington Metropolitan Park	1969	Acquisition	Closed	\$ 42,000.00	Still maintained as park
26-00617	Kensington Hike-Bike Trail	1975	Development	Closed	\$ 50,000.00	General maintenance
26-00856	Kensington Hike/Bike Trail	1977	Development	Closed	\$ 50,000.00	General maintenance
26-01319	Kensington Hike-Bike Trail	1984	Development	Closed	\$ 127,500.00	General maintenance
BF89-614	Nature Center Kensington	1989	Development	Closed	\$ 300,000.00	Facility upgrades
TF08-033	Kensington Metropark - Milford Trail Connector	2008	Development	Closed	\$ 315,000.00	General maintenance
TF11-018	Kensington Metropark Nature Center Pond Overlook	2011	Development	Closed	\$ 94,000.00	Additional amenities added to support grant

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier—W Boat Launch Main	2
Fishing Piers—W Boat Launch Small	3
West Boat Launch	1
East Boat Launch	1
Boat Rental	2
Mitten Bay	1
Golf Course	3



DEXTER-HURON AND DELHI METROPARKS

Dexter-Huron and Delhi Metroparks are located in north central Washtenaw County. Both parks are within the boundaries of Scio Township. Dexter-Huron is partially within the City of Dexter.

At their northernmost extent, Dexter-Huron reaches Mast Road, and to the east Delhi runs to Huron River Drive. Their western boundary is Central Street, and to the south they extend to the railroad tracks. The parks are situated on the Upper Middle Huron River and are in a designated Natural Rivers district. A portion of the Border-to-Border trail runs through Dexter-Huron and is planned to later connect through Delhi to the City of Ann Arbor.

Delhi and Dexter-Huron are, respectively, the smallest and second-smallest parks in the Metroparks system. Distinct from the large regional parks, they are valued for quick escapes into nature and for the land and water trails running through them. They contain far fewer facilities than other parks, and are administered out of Hudson Mills Metropark. These two parks are primarily used for biking and hiking, paddling, picnicking, and passive recreation.

Cultural History

Delhi — In 1831 Jacob Doremus came from New York and set up a sawmill on the banks of the Huron River. He later founded the Michigan Village, which residents renamed Delhi (pronounced Del-hi, not Deli), likely after a New York town.

At its peak Delhi was host to four different mills, two on each side of the river. The town met its demise in 1917 when a tornado struck and Delhi was leveled, with the exception of a few houses. In 1957 the former village of Delhi became Delhi Metropark. The only remains are a few houses outside the park, and the park name itself.

Dexter-Huron — With an intention to harvest the water power of the Huron, railroads and other companies bought land along the river in the late 1800s. Soon after the purchases, steam power made water power obsolete, and no confirmed mills or dams were built at this location. Risk of flooding prevented other types of development.

Dexter-Huron Metropark was previously owned by Ford Motor Company and operated by the Washtenaw County Road Commission as a roadside picnic area. The Metroparks assumed control of the 180 acres in 1952.

Activities

- Biking, rollerblading, or walking the paved trail
- Strolling the rustic trail
- Picnicking with family and friends
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Enjoying a softball game
- Taking a calming walk on the labyrinth

Statistics

Park Classification		
	Dexter-Huron	Delhi
Park Type	Region/Metro	Region/Metro
Park Size (Acres)	120	52

Infrastructure		
	Dexter-Huron	Delhi
Public bldgs / avg age	0	0
Service bldgs / avg age	0	0
Comfort stations / age	1 / 26	1 / 16
Road miles	0.41	0.22
Parking lot acreage	1.6	0.13
Playgrounds	2	3
Percent of park mowed	9.9	58.4
Picnic shelters	3	1
Sand volleyball courts	0	0
Baseball fields	0	2
Fishing platforms	0	0
Tennis courts	0	0
Ice skating rinks	0	0
Basketball courts	0	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	1	2

Trail Miles		
	Dexter-Huron	Delhi
Hike-Bike Trails	1.42	0
Nature Trails	0	0
Rustic Hiking Trails	0.16	0
Equestrian Trails	0	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	0	0
Mountain Bike Trails	0	0
Other Paths	0.07	0.13
Total	1.65	0.13

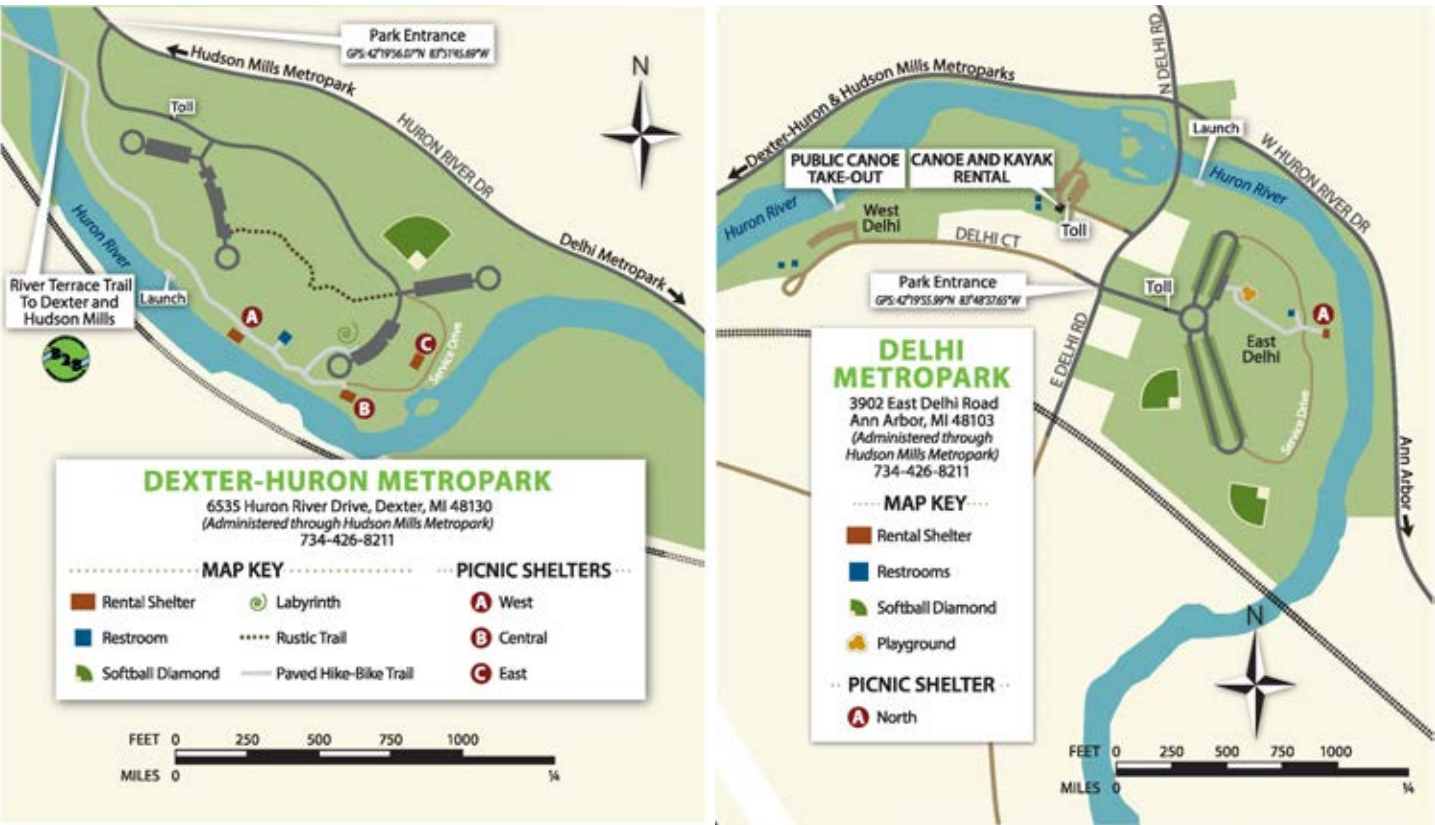
Community Plans

Scio Township	
Master Land Use Plan	2015
Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan	2013

City of Dexter	
Master Plan, Amended	2016
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2016
Capital Improvements Plan	2015
Mill Creek Park Recreation Master Plan	2009

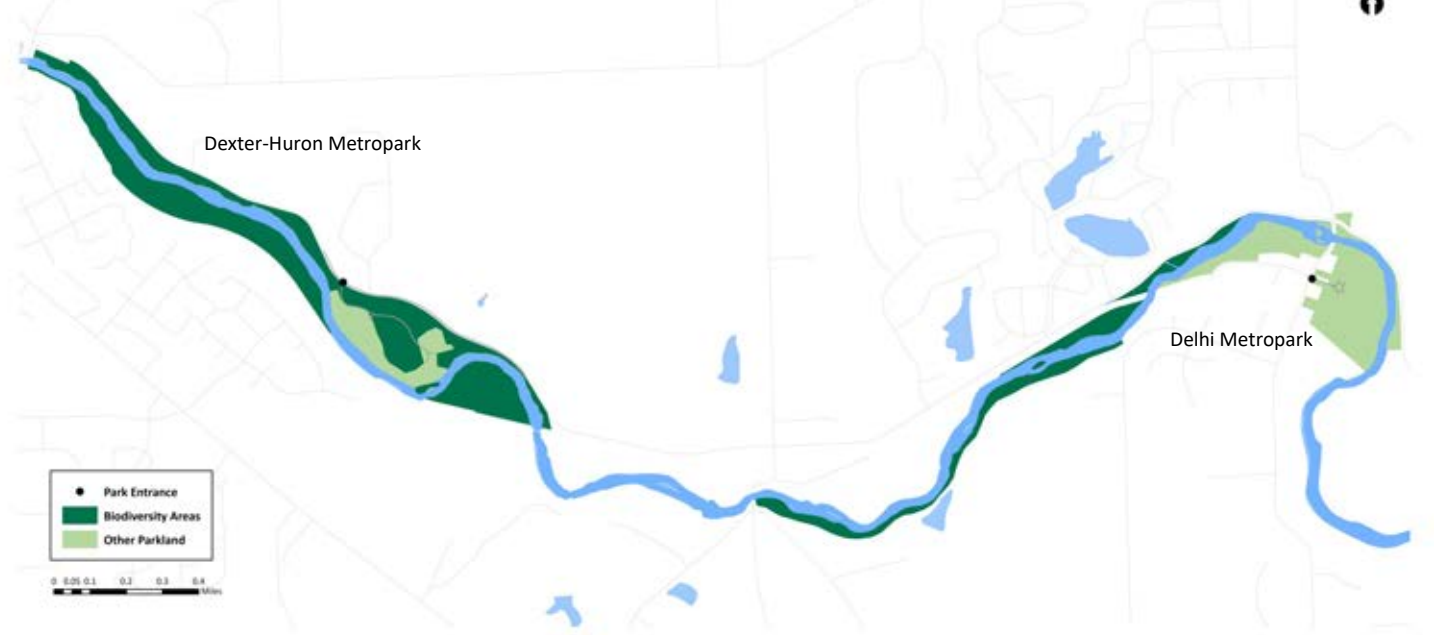
Park Overview

Figure 5.9 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Biodiversity

Figure 5.10 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.11 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name—Grant	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
BF98-088	Delhi Metropark Children's Play Area	1998	Development	Closed	\$ 36,400.00	General upkeep, ADA parking improvements



LOWER HURON METROPARK

Lower Huron Metropark is located in the southwest section of Wayne County in Southeast Michigan. Four municipalities include portions of Lower Huron: Van Buren, Sumpter, and Huron townships, and the City of Romulus.

At its northernmost extent Lower Huron reaches Huron River Drive. Its eastern boundary is Waltz Road/Huron River Drive, to the west it reaches Haggerty Road, and to the south it extends to Savage Road. The park sits on the Huron River.

A paved hike-bike trail runs the length of the park and connects it with Willow and Oakwoods Metroparks, then continues all the way to Lake Erie Metropark. It is also a segment of the statewide Iron Belle Trail.

Lower Huron is popular for picnicking and fishing, and its Turtle Cove Family Aquatic Center. Along with launches for paddlers on the popular Huron River Water Trail, a National Park Service-designated National Water Trail, these elements make up the primary recreational infrastructure of the park.

Cultural History

Several archaeological studies have been conducted at Lower Huron in the past decades, resulting in the discovery of artifacts from both Native American and European settlements. Sites identified include burial grounds, campsites, dwellings, kilns, commercial structures, tool manufacture areas, and farmsteads.

The Schulz Mill Dam is no longer standing, but the pilings can be seen within the park. The mill is still in operation just outside the park and sells feed and other grain products. Other mills that once stood on current park property but no longer exist include Johnson Mill and Otis/Stewart Mill.

Founded during the first half of the 1800s, Mt. Pleasant Village no longer existed by the time of the Civil War. It can still be seen on historical maps, marked at the edge of current Lower Huron boundaries.

Activities

- Swimming and splashing at Turtle Cove
- Biking the paved trail
- Ice skating in winter
- Walking the nature and hiking trails
- Fishing, picnicking, and paddling down the Huron River
- Camping at the rustic and group campgrounds
- Enjoying a game of tennis or basketball

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1256

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	3 / 25
Service bldgs / avg age	3 / 20
Comfort stations / avg age	9 / 30
Road miles	8.66
Parking lot acreage	20.09
Playgrounds	10
Percent of park mowed	22.6
Picnic shelters	10
Sand volleyball courts	3
Baseball fields	2
Fishing platforms	2
Tennis courts	1
Ice skating rinks	2
Basketball courts	4
Public canoe/kayak launches	2

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	4.94
Nature Trails	0.82
Rustic Hiking Trails	3.38
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	0
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	1.98
Total	11.12

Community Plans

Van Buren Township	
Parks and Recreation Plan	2011
South Side Master Plan	2007
Master Plan	1989

Sumpter Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2010
Master Land Use Plan	2005

Huron Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2013
Master Plan	2004

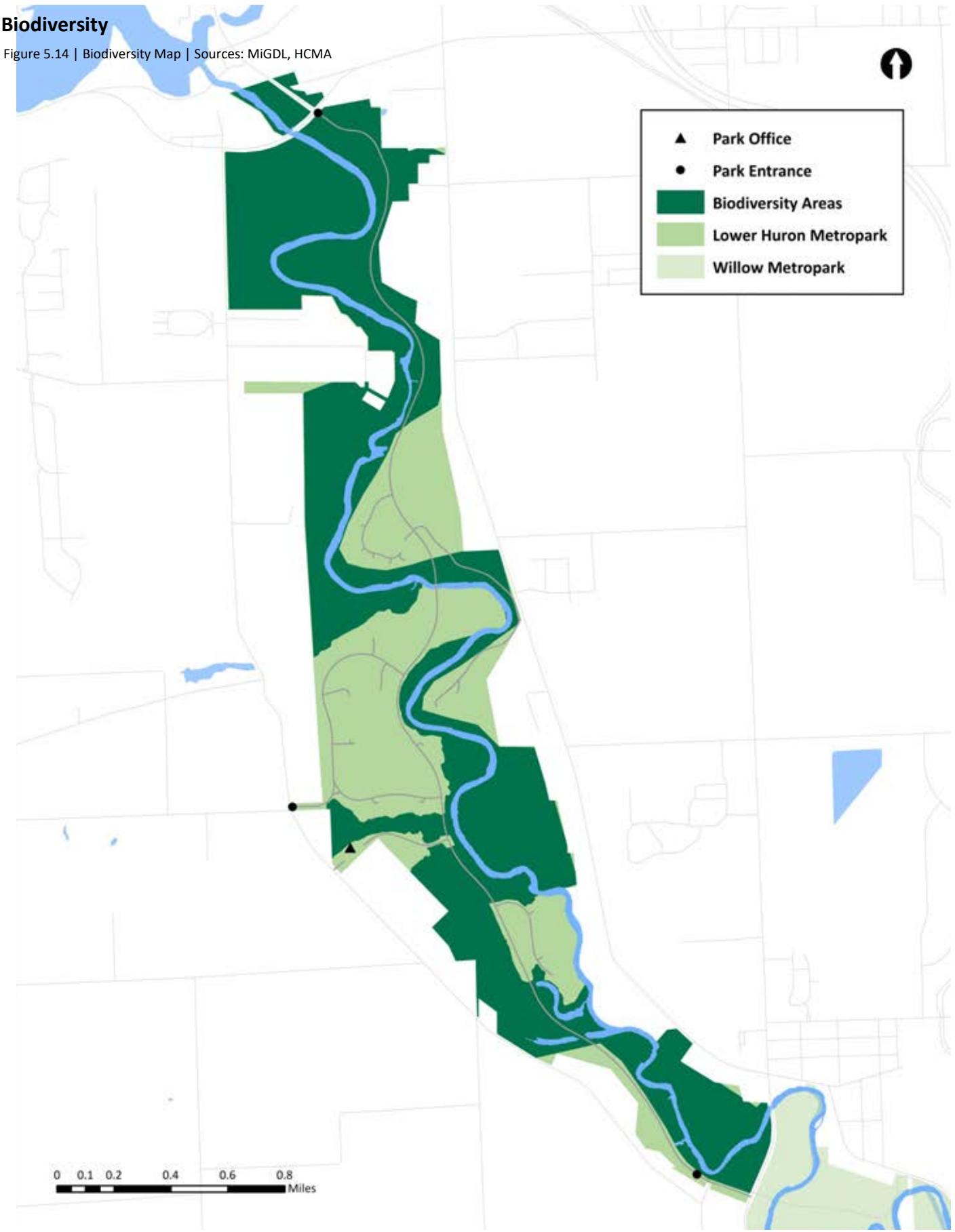
City of Romulus	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2014
Capital Improvements Plan	2010
Master Plan	2009

Figure 5.13 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



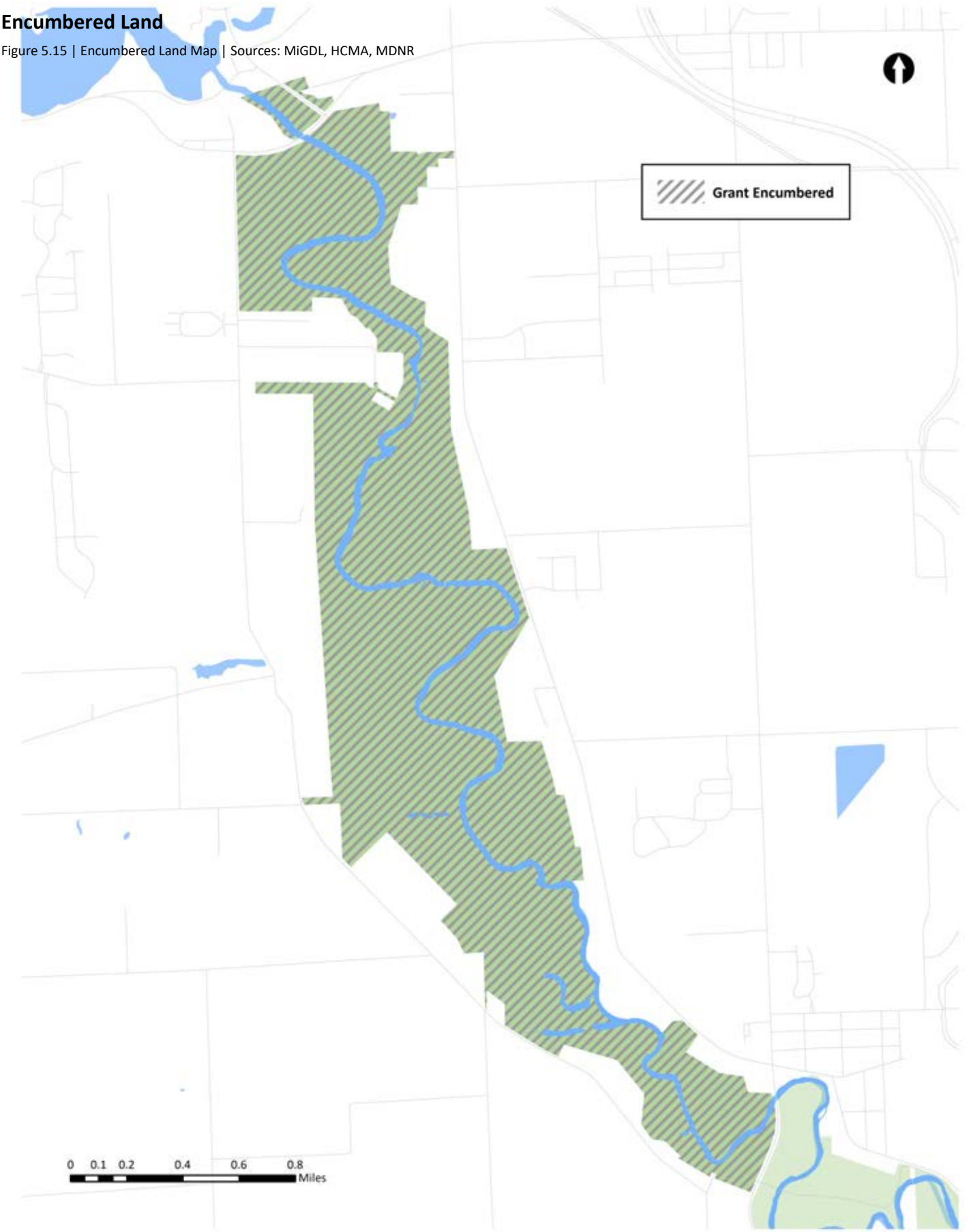
Biodiversity

Figure 5.14 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.15 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
26-00025	Lower Huron Metropark Woods Creek Picnic Area	1965	Development	Closed	\$ 18,700.00	General maintenance, no conversion
BF93-153	Lower Huron and Willow Metroparks	1993	Development	Closed	\$ 170,000.00	General maintenance, no conversion
TF00-069	Lower Huron Metropark Fishing Access Boardwalks	2000	Development	Closed	\$ 180,000.00	General maintenance, no conversion

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - North Site	3
Fishing Pier - East Bend	3
Fishing Pier - South Site	3
Turtle Cove	3



HUDSON MILLS METROPARK

Hudson Mills Metropark is located in Washtenaw County, near its northern border with Livingston County. Most of the park is in Dexter Township, with a small amount extending into Webster Township. The park abuts the City of Dexter.

At its northernmost extent, Hudson Mills reaches McGregor Road. To the east it runs along Dexter-Pinckney, its western boundary is Huron River Drive, and to the south it extends nearly to Central Street. The park is situated on the Upper Middle Huron River and is in a Natural Rivers district.

Hudson Mills is primarily used for biking and hiking, picnicking, paddling, and disc golf. A portion of the Border-to-Border trail runs through Hudson Mills and connects with the City of Dexter, attracting cyclists and runners. It is also a segment of the statewide Iron Belle Trail. The maple sugaring event is a popular draw in the spring, and hayrides through the forest bring out families in the fall.

Cultural History

The boundaries of Washtenaw County were established in 1822, and a settlement called Hudson Mills grew near the intersection of North Territorial Road and Dexter-Pinckney Road.

The settlers utilized the great water power of the Huron River. In 1827, Cornelius Osterhaut built a sawmill, which cut the lumber for the settlers' homes, shops and barns. In 1846, a gristmill was located on the river at this site, followed by a cider mill and a plaster mill. The gristmill was known as Hudson Mill, and primarily processed wheat and corn. A general store, hotel, and pulp mill were later established.

The hamlet of Hudson was prosperous as long as the mills were running. However, in 1903, the pulp mill was sold and relocated to the new owner's farm in Webster Township.

Activities

- Biking, rollerblading, or walking the paved trail
- Strolling the nature trail
- Cross country skiing in winter
- Picnicking with family and friends
- Canoeing and kayaking the National Water Trail
- Taking on both disc golf courses
- Enjoying a round of golf
- Playing tennis, volleyball, and more

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1573

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	2 / 30
Service bldgs / avg age	4 / 30
Comfort stations / avg age	3 / 29
Road miles	3.22
Parking lot acreage	5.77
Playgrounds	4
Percent of park mowed	9.5
Picnic shelters	3
Sand volleyball courts	6
Baseball fields	4
Fishing platforms	0
Tennis courts	2
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	1

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	7.28
Nature Trails	1.9
Rustic Hiking Trails	0.16
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	3.79
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	5.93
Total	19.06

Community Plans

Dexter Township	
Draft Work Plan	2016
Master Plan	2011

Webster Township	
Master Plan Revision Draft	2015

City of Dexter	
Master Plan, Amended	2016
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2016
Capital Improvements Plan	2015
Mill Creek Park Recreation Master Plan	2009



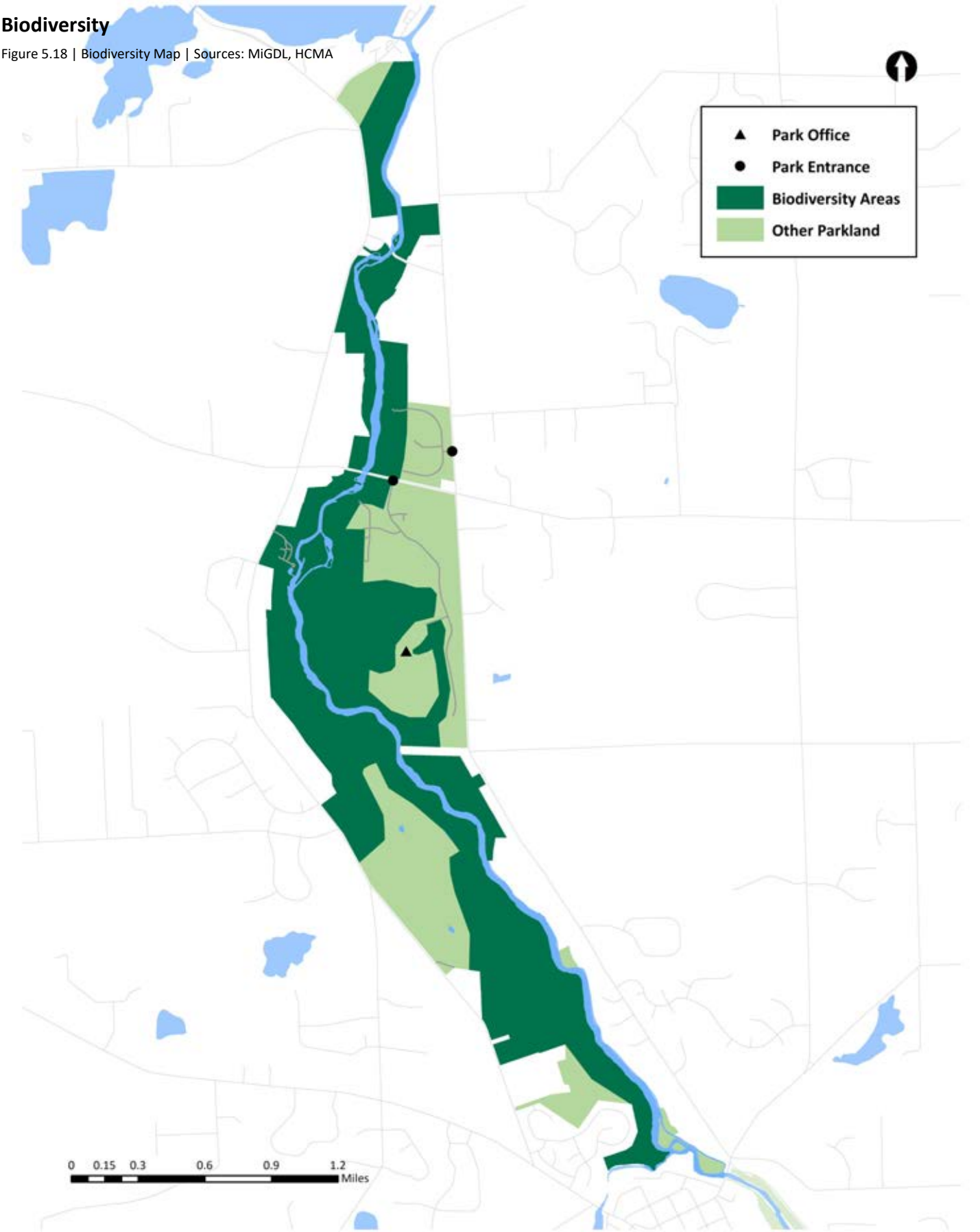
Park Overview

Figure 5.17 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



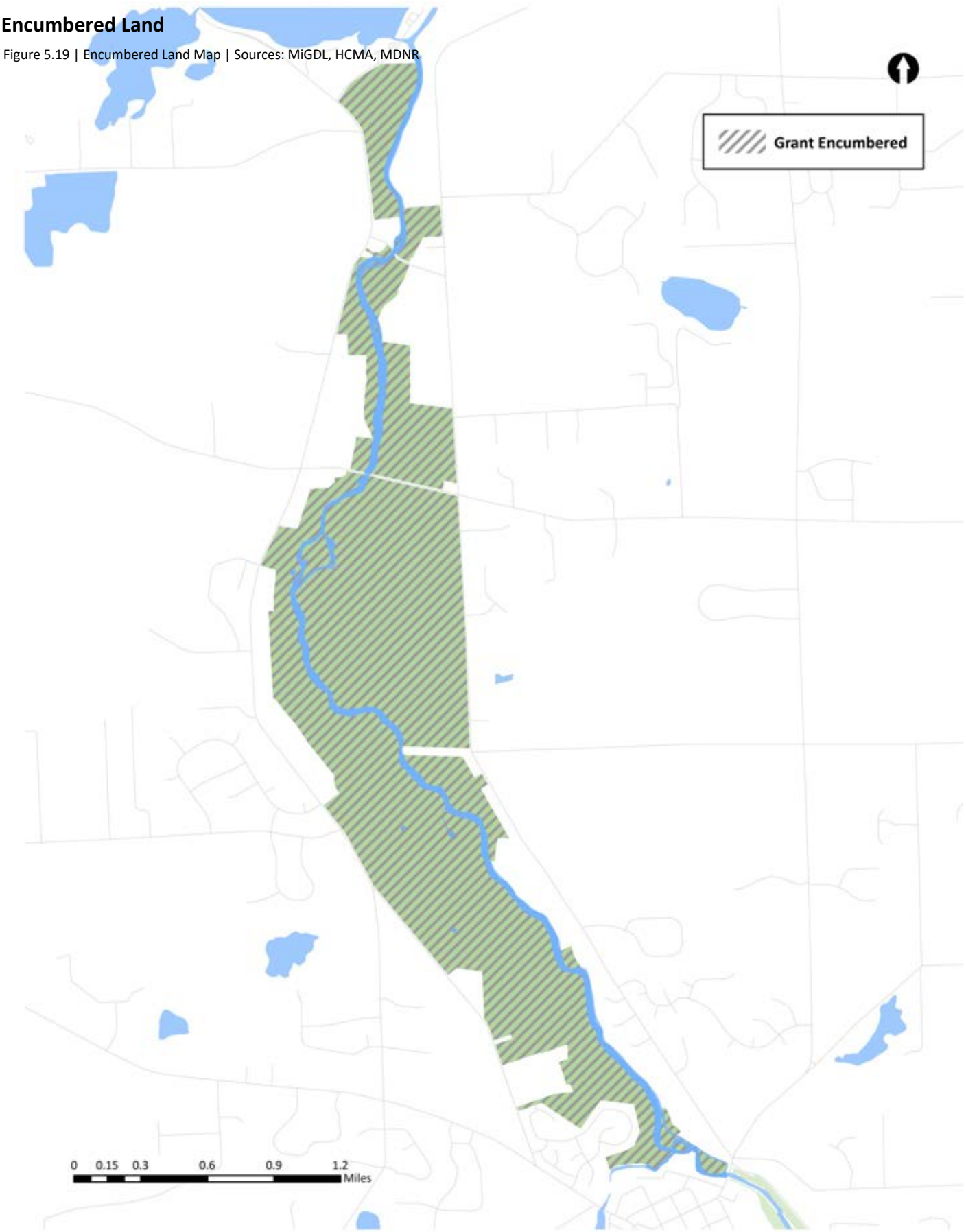
Biodiversity

Figure 5.18 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.19 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



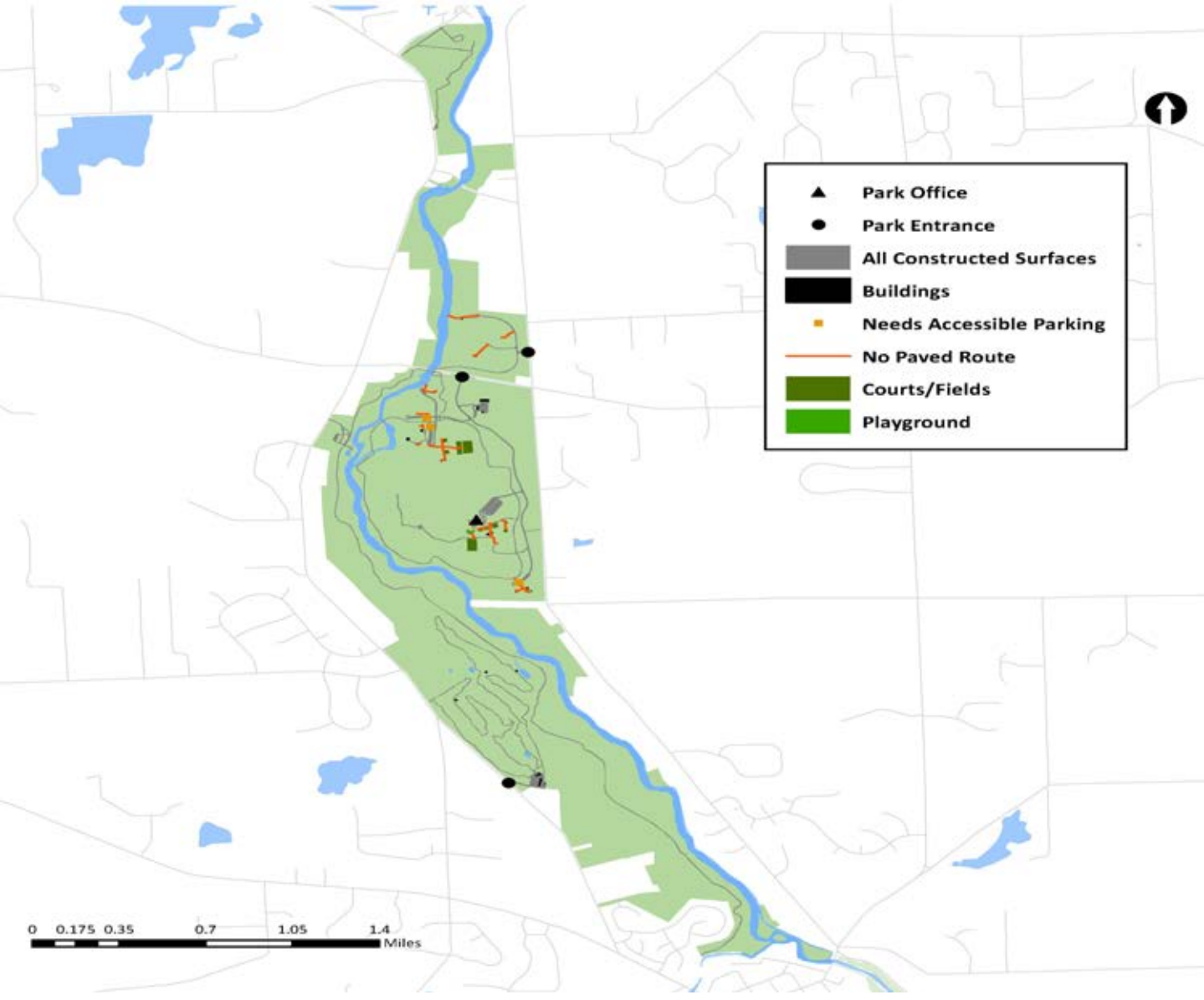
Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
26-01146	Hudson Mills Hike-Bike Trail	1980	Development	Closed	\$ 78,500.00	General maintenance
TF03-023	Hudson Mills Metropark Hike/Bike Trail	2003	Development	Closed	\$ 361,000.00	General maintenance
TF10-040	Hudson Mills Hike/Bike Trail Development	2010	Development	Closed	\$ 500,000.00	General maintenance
TF14-0129	Hudson Mills Metropark Property Acquisition	2014	Acquisition	Active	\$75,000.00	Appraisal Needed

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Golf Course	3

Figure 5.20 | Accessibility Map | Sources: Google, HCMA



STONY CREEK METROPARK

Stony Creek Metropark is located on the border of Oakland and Macomb counties in Southeast Michigan. It is approximately halfway between M-59 and the Lapeer County border. Three municipalities contain portions of the park: Oakland, Washington, and Shelby townships. The park also borders the City of Rochester Hills.

At its northernmost extent, Stony Creek reaches 31 Mile. To the east it reaches Mound Road, its western boundary is Sheldon Road, and to the south it extends between 25 and 26 Mile. The park is situated on the North Branch of the Clinton River.

Stony Creek features a wide variety of recreational activities, including mountain biking trails, a public campsite, and a beach with a large, modern playground. In spring 2017 the GoApe ropes course opened, allowing visitors to experience treetop adventures. Passive recreation is also an important aspect of the park, and the Inwood trails to the north of the park provide miles of gorgeous rustic hiking for those in search of an escape. Similar to Kensington, Stony Creek Lake was created through damming the Clinton River.

Cultural History

Stony Creek includes several interesting cultural and historical sites, such as the remains of the grand Shelden family estate. The Buckhorn Disc Golf Course sits on the site of the old Buckhorn Tavern that served residents and travelers in the 1800s, and the Inwood Trails cross the area where William Inwood Sr. discovered Native American artifacts.

The Detroit and Lake Orion Railway ran between the two cities starting in 1899, changing to Detroit United Railway after track extension to Flint and consolidation. The line was later extended all the way to Imlay City, but went out of business in 1934. Today, a line of raised ground near the Boat Launch is all that remains of the railway.

Activities

- Boating and fishing on 500-acre Stony Creek Lake
- Swimming at one of two beaches, inflatable water slide
- Hiking, mountain and road biking, running, inline skating
- Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and high ropes course
- Snowboarding, sledding, and ice fishing
- Golfing at the 18-hole regulation golf course
- Playgrounds and court games (volleyball, basketball, etc.)
- Picnicking and camping with family

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	4435

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	8 / 47
Service bldgs / avg age	8 / 43
Comfort stations / avg age	8 / 34
Road miles	14.32
Parking lot acreage	38.31
Playgrounds	14
Percent of park mowed	10.5
Picnic shelters	15
Sand volleyball courts	3
Baseball fields	2
Fishing platforms	1
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	2
Basketball courts	4
Public canoe/kayak launches	2

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	7.66
Nature Trails	3.97
Rustic Hiking Trails	15.62
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	14.71
Mountain Bike Trails	16.8
Other Paths	9.27
Total	68.03

Community Plans

Washington Township	
Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks, Greenways and Open Space Plan	2011

Oakland Township	
Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Land Preservation and Trails	2009
A Community Master Plan	2005

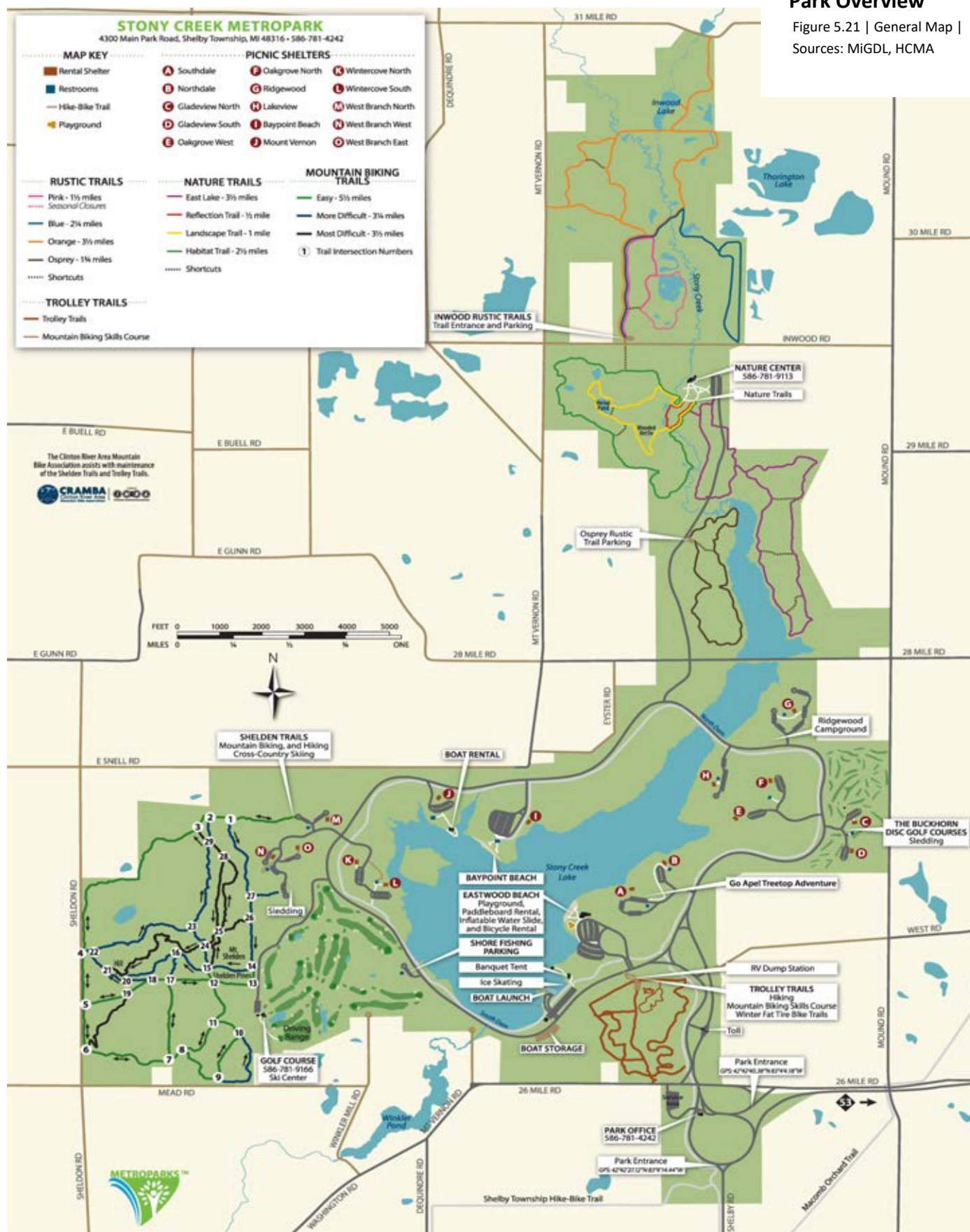
City of Rochester Hills	
Riverbend Park Draft Master Plan Report	2013
Capital Improvement Plan	2013
Master Land Use Plan	2012
Master Thoroughfare Plan Update	2008

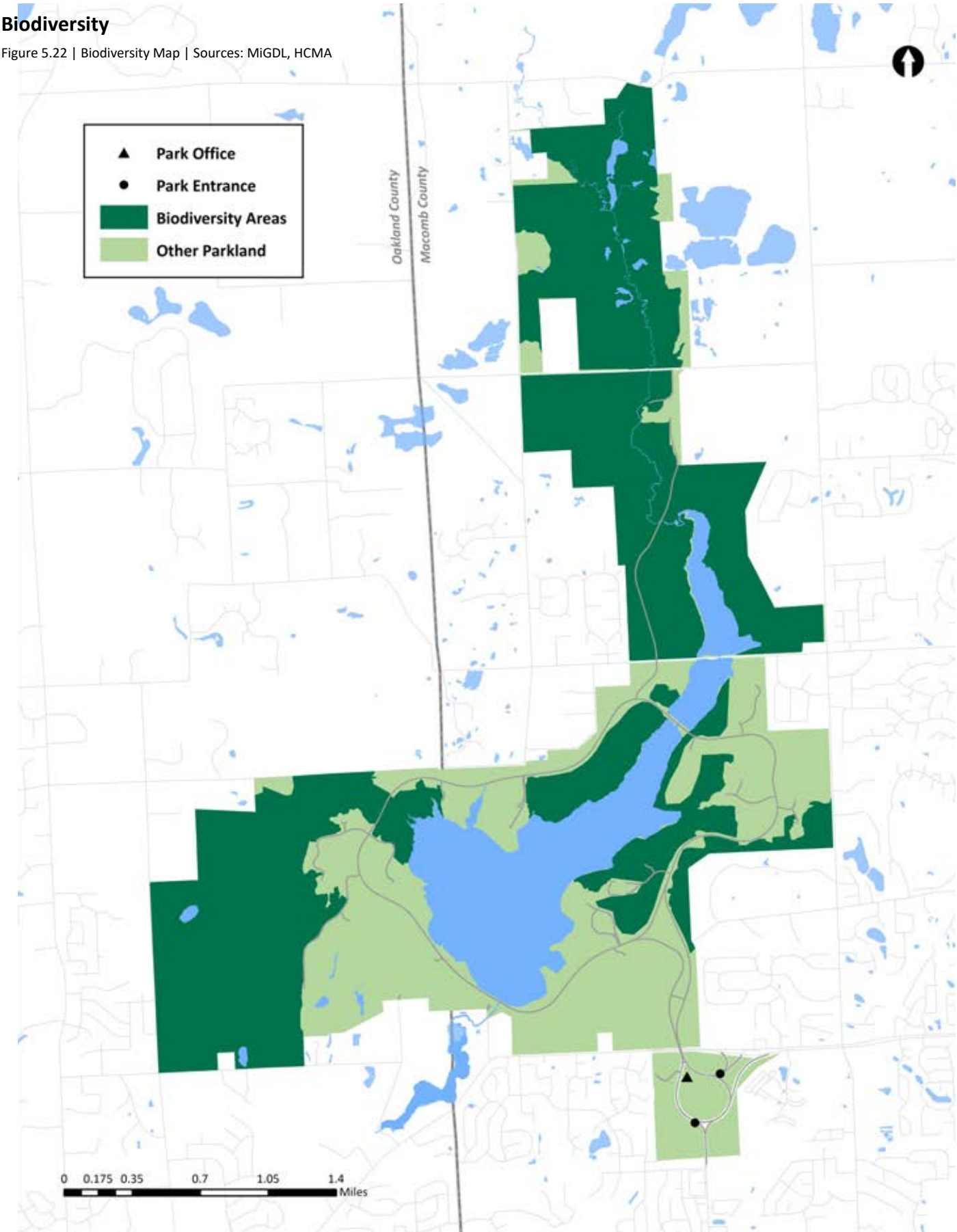
Shelby Township	
Capital Improvement Plan	2014
Recreation Plan	2012
Master Plan	2009

Park Overview

Figure 5.21 | General Map |

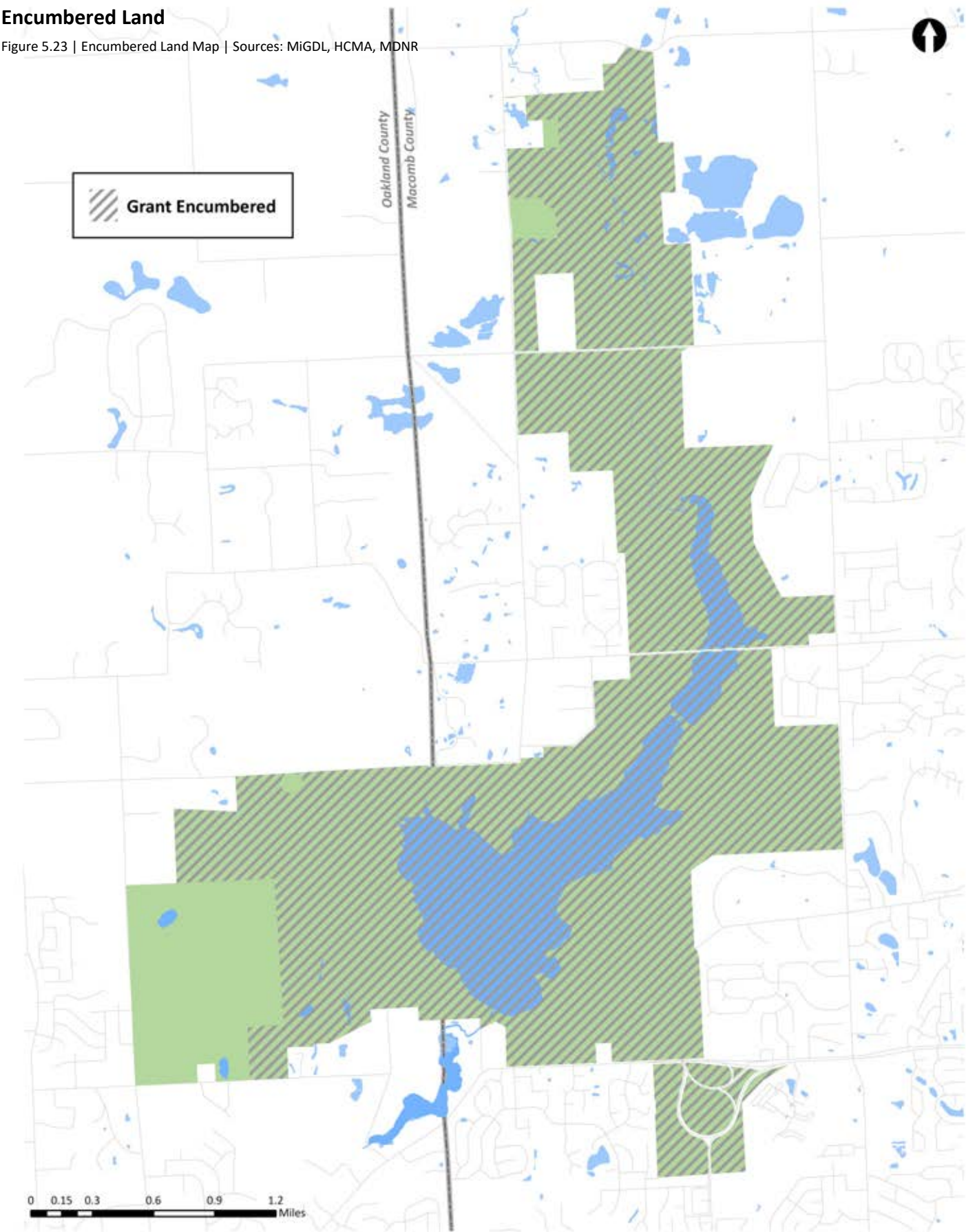
Sources: MiGDL, HCMA





Encumbered Land

Figure 5.23 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
26-00022	Stony Creek West Branch - Winter Cove	1965	Development	Mitigation Com	\$ 198,050.00	Structure renovations to meet standards, additional trail facilities, basketball court
26-00059	Stony Creek Enlargement #1	1967	Acquisition	Mitigation Com	\$ 144,049.00	DEQ conservation easement remains public recreation
26-00070	Stony Creek Metropolitan Park #2	1967	Development	Mitigation Com	\$ 142,230.00	Upgraded boat launch complex per modern standards, additional beach amenities added
26-00618	Stony Creek Hike-Bike Trail	1975	Development	Mitigation Com	\$ 50,000.00	General maintenance
26-00857	Stony Creek Hike/Bike Trail	1977	Development	Mitigation Com	\$ 50,000.00	General maintenance

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - Boat Rental	2
Boat Launch	2
Boat Rental	2
Golf Course	3



WILLOW METROPARK

Willow Metropark is located in Wayne County, near its southern border with Monroe County. All of the park is within Huron Township.

At its northernmost extent, Willow nearly reaches Huron River Drive. To the east it runs along Willow Road, its western boundary is Waltz Road, and to the south it extends to Willow Road. All the active recreation in the park is located east of I-275. The park is situated on the Lower Huron River, and contains part of the trail running from Lower Huron Metropark to Lake Erie Metropark, a segment of the Iron Belle Trail.

Willow is primarily used for swimming, biking and hiking, picnicking, paddling, fishing, sledding, and disc golf. This is one of the most densely developed parks, featuring a number of recreational facilities in a relatively small land area. Some facilities, surrounding the Willow Pool, were built for a different era and different recreational trends and will need to be reimagined through the planning process. The access it provides to both the I-275 trail and the Lower Huron to Lake Erie trail make it an important non-motorized crossroads.

Cultural History

The portion of the park near the north entrance was part of the Wyandot Reservation from 1818-1842. A cabin once stood here where Mary McKee, granddaughter of a Wyandot chief, was born in 1838. She would remain here until 1843, when her family was relocated to Kansas. Later, she would return to the Midwest and share her knowledge of Wyandot culture and history with an anthropologist.

Willow Metropark contains a historic cemetery, known as the Huron Township Cemetery or "Fay and Smith Cemetery." It is located between Big Bend and Indian Ridge.

Activities

- Biking, rollerblading, or walking the paved trail
- Swimming in zero-depth entry pool with water slide, basketball, and spray features
- Taking family to the lit sledding hills
- Cross country skiing
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Playing disc golf, basketball, volleyball, and more
- Enjoying a round of golf
- Sledding and ice fishing in winter

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1532

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	6 / 37
Service bldgs / avg age	8 / 34
Comfort stations / avg age	7 / 34
Road miles	6.08
Parking lot acreage	16.91
Playgrounds	10
Percent of park mowed	21
Picnic shelters	8
Sand volleyball courts	2
Baseball fields	1
Fishing platforms	1
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	2
Public canoe/kayak launches	1

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	7.7
Nature Trails	0
Rustic Hiking Trails	0
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	3.85
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	8.59
Total	20.14

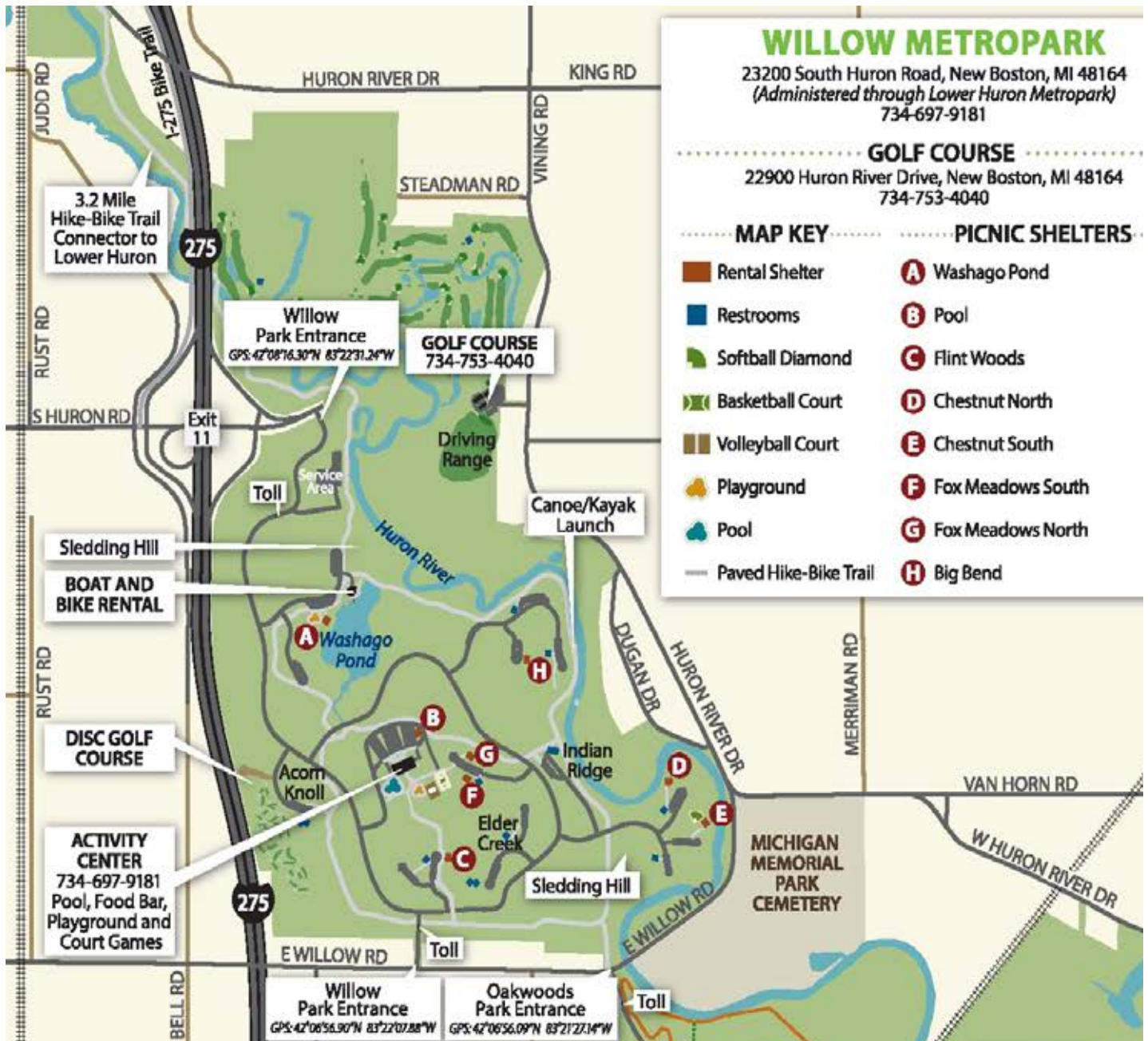
Community Plans

Huron Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2013
Master Plan	2004



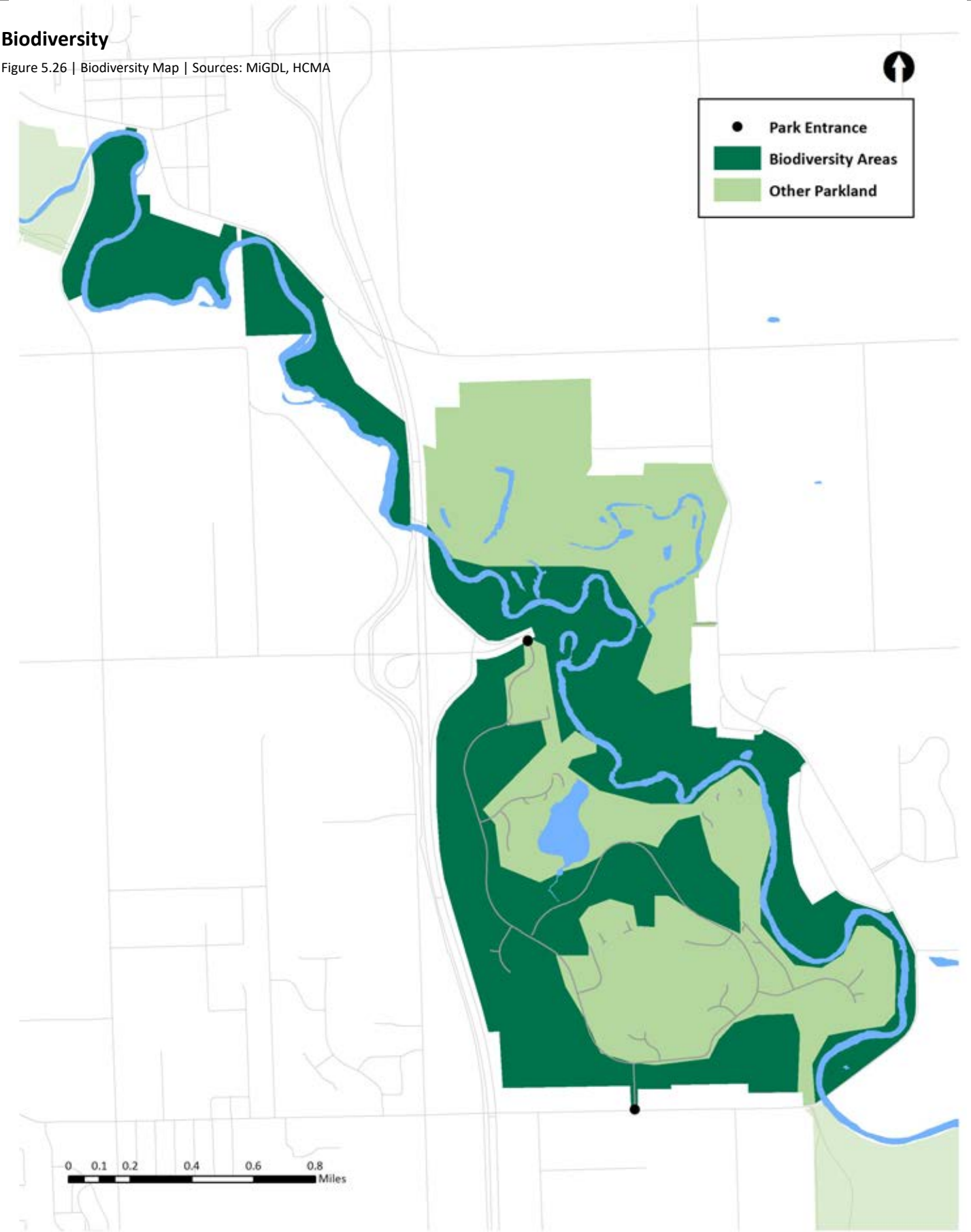
Park Overview

Figure 5.25 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



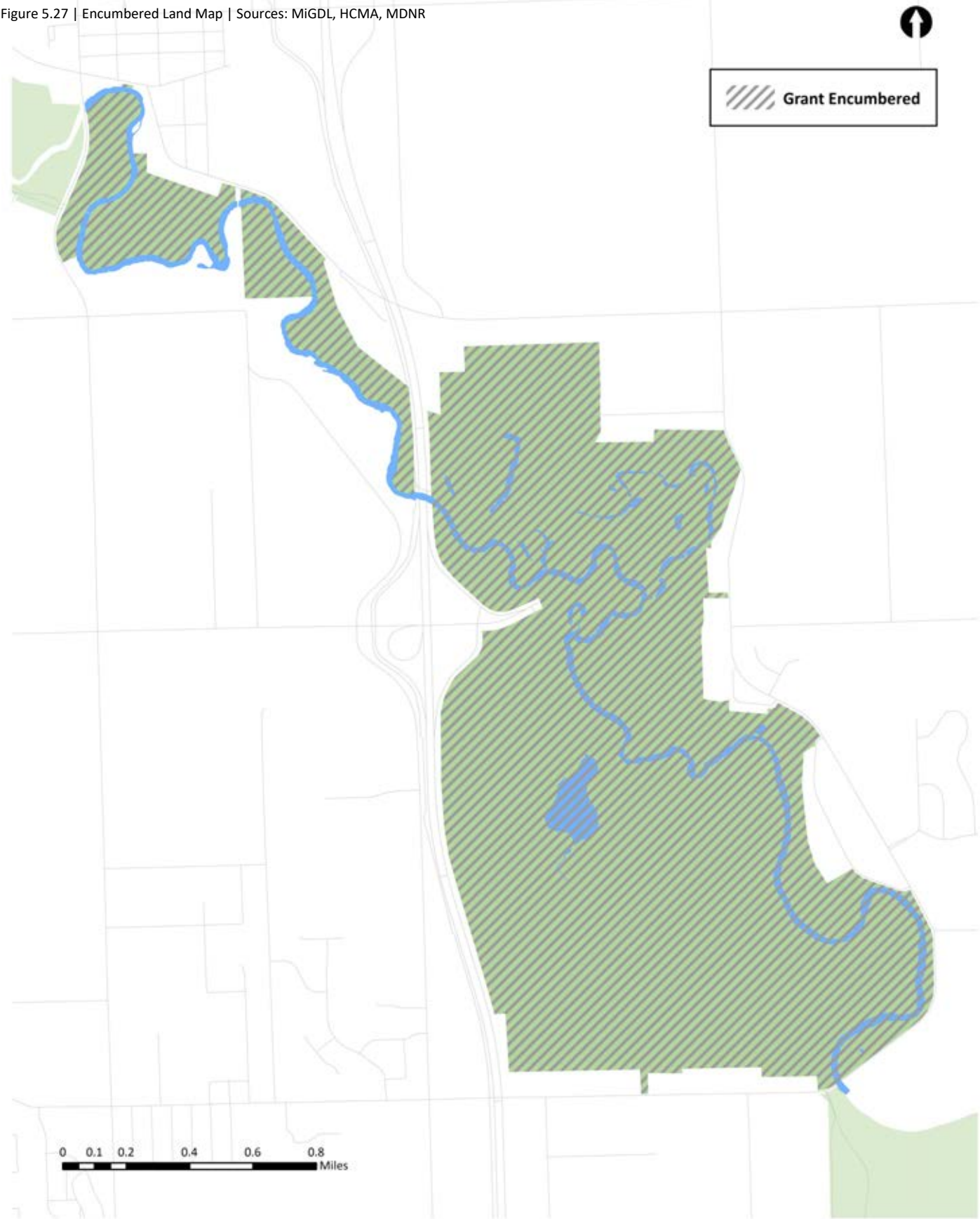
Biodiversity

Figure 5.26 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.27 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



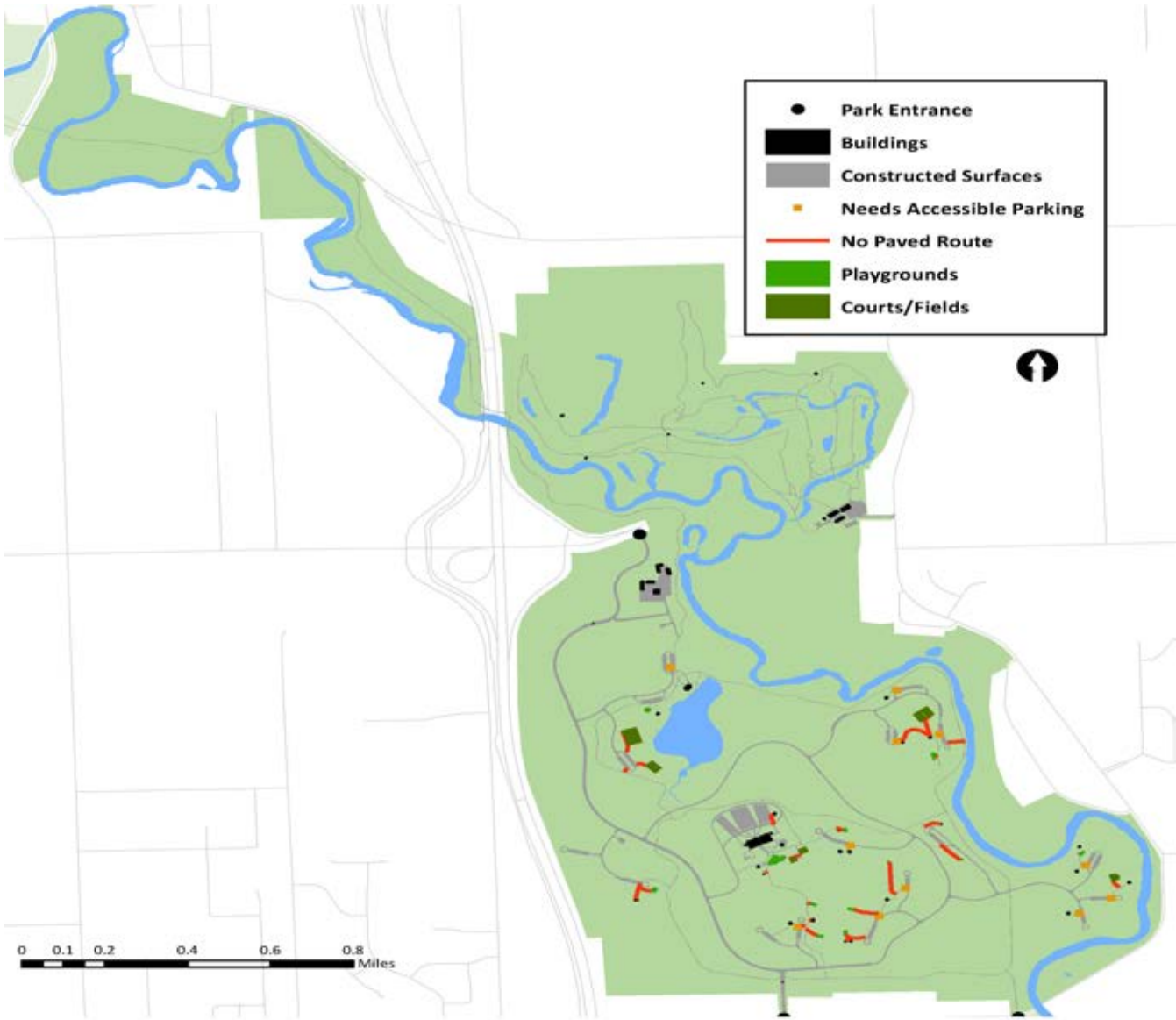
Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Conditions
BF89-196	Willow Metropark - Wayne County	1989	Development	Closed	\$ 225,000.00	Renovations and repurposing of buildings being planned, no conversion will take place
BF90-170	Willow Metropark Hike/Bike Trail	1990	Development	Closed	\$ 225,000.00	General maintenance

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - Washago Pond	1
Golf Course	3
Pool	3

Figure 5.28 | Accessibility Map | Sources: Google, HCMA



OAKWOODS METROPARK

Oakwoods Metropark is located in southern Wayne County, near the border of Monroe County. The park is mostly within Huron Township, with a small section extending into the City of Flat Rock.

At its northernmost extent, Oakwoods reaches Huron River Drive. To the east it abuts the Huron River, it extends to the west near Romine Road, and to the south it reaches the county line. The park is situated on the Lower Huron River, and includes a portion of the trail running from Lower Huron Metropark to Lake Erie Metropark, a segment of the Iron Belle Trail.

Oakwoods is one of the least-developed parks in the Metroparks system. It focuses on passive recreation, trails, and protection of natural resources. It contains far fewer facilities than other parks, and is administered out of Lower Huron Metropark.

This park is primarily used for biking and hiking, paddling, picnicking, shore fishing, and horseback riding. The Nature Center is another important component of Oakwoods, providing interpretive programs for visitors. Oakwoods plays a unique role in the string of southern Metroparks due to its natural character. Keeping the park largely preserved and undeveloped is a priority.

Cultural History

The vast majority of the park was part of the Wyandot Reservation from 1818-1842 under the Treaty of St. Mary's. Numerous archaeological digs have been performed within the park by staff and other experts. These digs have revealed both historic and prehistoric artifacts, showing that the Native Americans have been utilizing this site for thousands of years.

The center of the park is the former site of a meat packing plant. This area contains a wealth of historical artifacts, many dating back 50-100 years, when there were houses located along the Old South Huron Rd.

Activities

- Biking, rollerblading, or walking the paved trail
- Enjoying nature and birdwatching
- Picnicking with family and friends
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Shorefishing and Voyageur canoe outings
- Visiting with Hawkeye the Hawk
- Equestrian trails

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1715

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / age	1 / 43
Service bldgs / avg age	1
Comfort stations / avg age	0
Road miles	3.04
Parking lot acreage	4.05
Playgrounds	0
Percent of park mowed	3.5
Picnic shelters	0
Sand volleyball courts	0
Baseball fields	0
Fishing platforms	0
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	2

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	3.88
Nature Trails	4.69
Rustic Hiking Trails	0
Equestrian Trails	6.82
Cross Country Ski Trails	2.89
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	0.59
Total	18.87

Community Plans

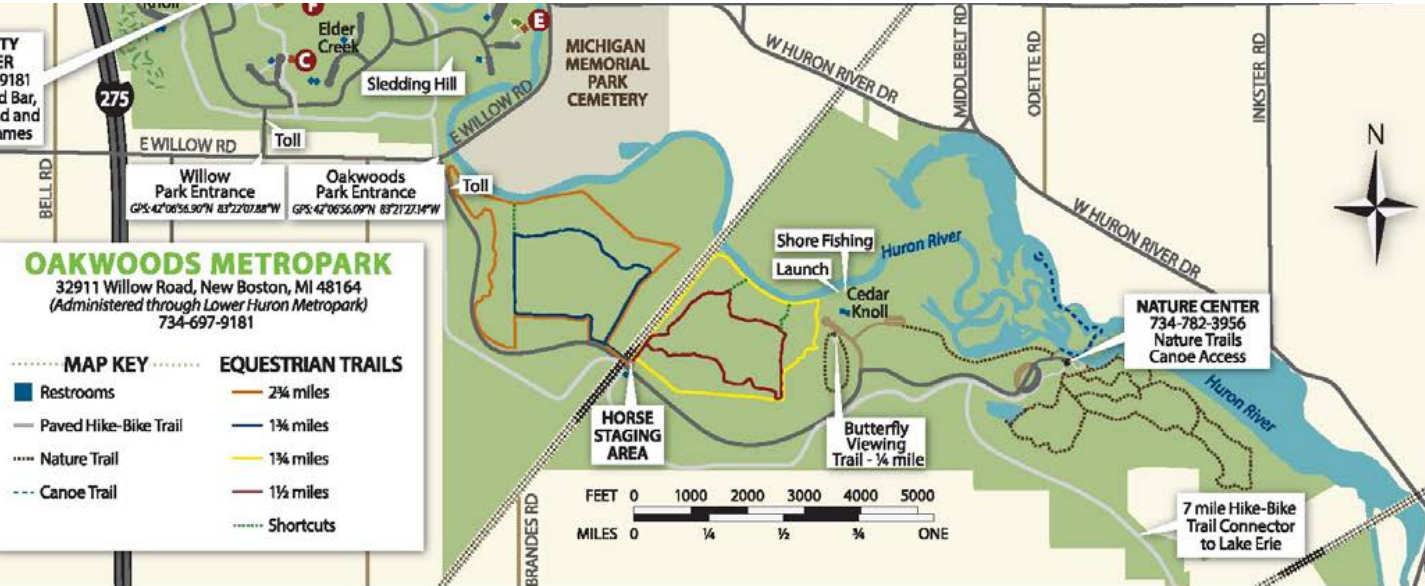
Huron Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2013
Master Plan	2004

City of Flat Rock	
Master Plan	2007



Park Overview

Figure 5.29 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Biodiversity

Figure 5.30 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

No land is encumbered in this park.

Grant History

No grants have been received for this park.



LAKE ERIE METROPARK

Lake Erie Metropark is located in Wayne County, on its southern border with Monroe County. Most of the park is within Brownstown Township, with the northern section extending into the City of Gibraltar.

At its northernmost extent, Lake Erie reaches South Gibraltar Road. To the east is Lake Erie's shoreline, its western boundary is Jefferson Road, and to the south it abuts Pointe Mouillee State Game Area. The park is situated at the mouth of the Huron River.

A wide variety of recreational activities are available at Lake Erie Metropark. The park is notable for its expanse of beautiful shoreline, much of which can be enjoyed on the hike-bike trail, nature trails, or boardwalks. It is a nationally recognized birding area with high-quality habitat. At the north end of the park, the Great Wave Pool and Food Bar has been drawing families to enjoy summer fun for decades.

Cultural History

The village of Brownstown moved locations several times during its history, but prior to the War of 1812 it was located partially with the northern border of the park. Various projectile points have been found along the shoreline, suggesting a former Native American presence.

French Long Lots, also known as ribbon farms, can be seen along the southern portion of the park. These properties are long and narrow, with the short border along a waterfront. Consequently, all properties had water access, a valuable commodity for the newly arrived.

The cannon monument located at the north end of the park is directly related to the efforts of Dr. Hal C. Wyman. A prominent physician in late 19th century Detroit, he was also a history buff. Using his own funding, he secured the cannons for a monument honoring soldiers from the War of 1812.

Activities

- Biking, rollerblading, or walking
- Exploring the Marshlands Museum and nature trails
- Spending a day at the wave pool and picnicking
- Boating and kayaking
- Cross country skiing in winter
- Birdwatching and shore fishing
- Playing tennis, volleyball, basketball, and more
- Enjoying a round of golf

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1607
Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	8 / 29
Service bldgs / avg age	9 / 24
Comfort stations / avg age	2 / 5
Road miles	4.95
Parking lot acreage	21.79
Playgrounds	3
Percent of park mowed	12
Picnic shelters	5
Sand volleyball courts	2
Baseball fields	1
Fishing platforms	1
Tennis courts	2
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	2
Public canoe/kayak launches	1

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	3
Nature Trails	3.93
Rustic Hiking Trails	0
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	3.85
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	8.85
Total	19.63

Community Plans

City of Gibraltar	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2013
Master Plan	2002

Brownstown Township	
Recreation Campus Master Plan	2010
Master Plan	2008



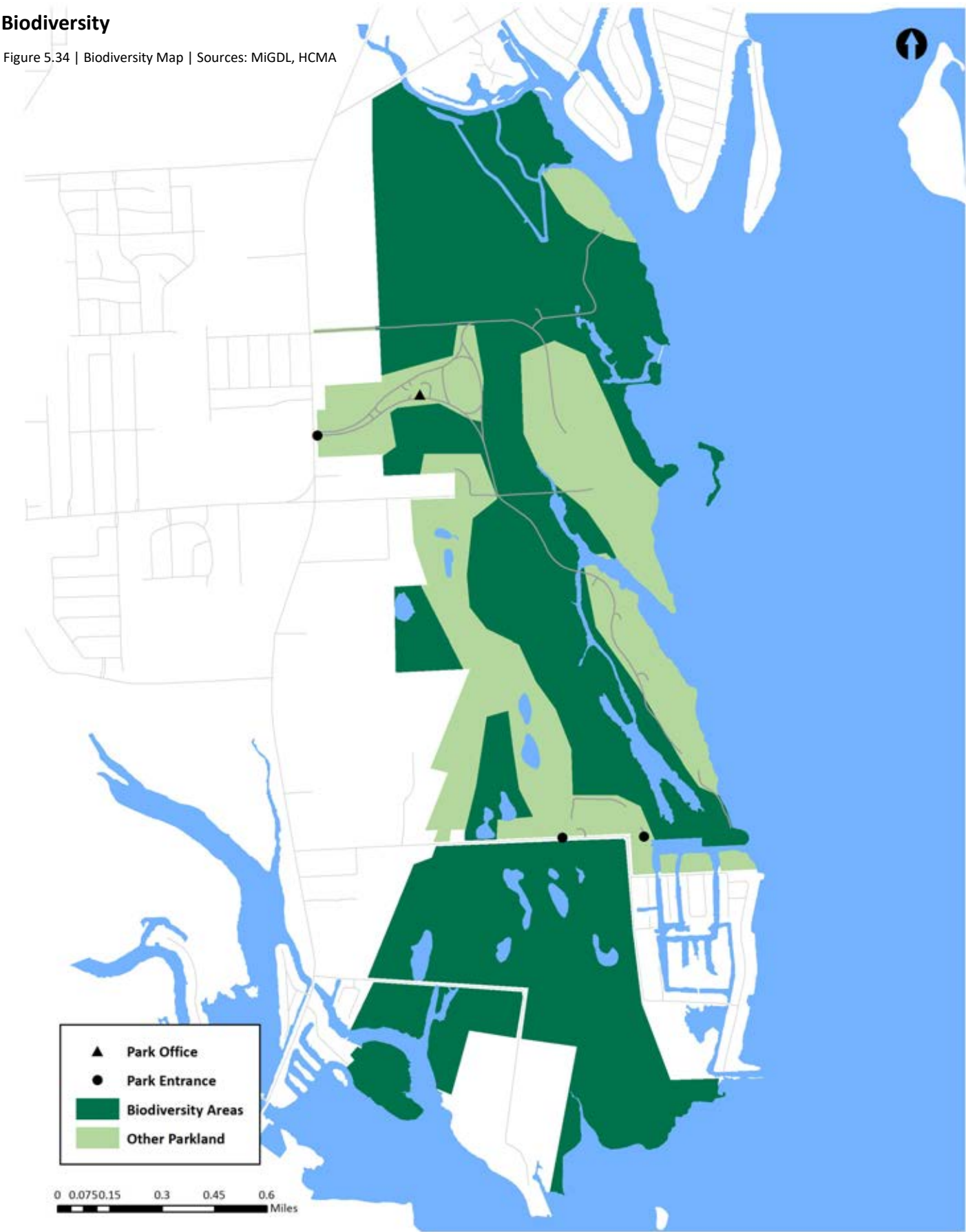
Park Overview

Figure 5.33 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



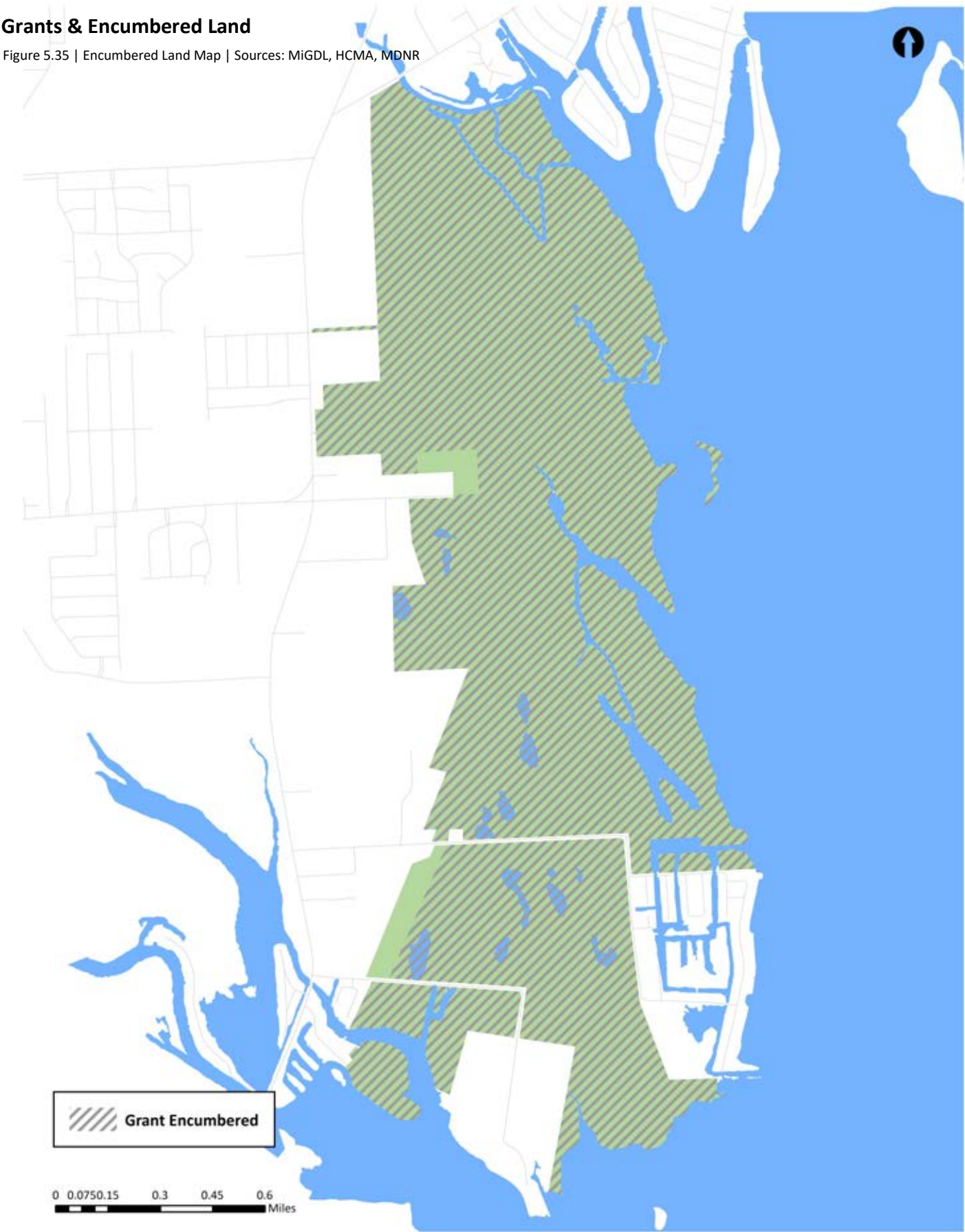
Biodiversity

Figure 5.34 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Grants & Encumbered Land

Figure 5.35 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Condition
26-01383	Lake Erie Metropark Play Area	1985	Development	Closed	\$ 175,000.00	Renovated playground and additional amenities added to wave pool along with minor upgrades to pool facility
BF90-197	Lake Erie Metropark Wildfowlers Museum - Ph. 2	1990	Development	Closed	\$ 750,000.00	Continued use as museum/nature center
BF93-152	Lake Erie MP - Trail	1993	Development	Closed	\$ 115,500.00	General maintenance –no conversion
TF95-088	Shoreline Trail	1995	Development	Closed	\$ 375,000.00	General maintenance—no conversion
TF99-117	Lake Erie Metropark Marina Point Fishing Site	1999	Development	Closed	\$ 180,000.00	Continued use –no conversion
TF01-041	Lake Erie Metropark Hike-Bike/Shoreline Trail	2001	Development	Closed	\$ 199,800.00	General maintenance– no conversion

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - Marina Point	3
Boat Launch	3
Marina	2
Golf Course	3
Wave Pool	4



WOLCOTT MILL METROPARK

Wolcott Mill Metropark is located in Macomb County in Southeast Michigan. It is approximately halfway between M-59 and the Lapeer County border. This is the largest Metropark in the system to be located solely within one municipality, in this case Ray Township.

At its northernmost extent Wolcott Mill reaches 31 Mile. Its eastern boundary is Ray Center Road, to the west it nearly reaches Romeo Plank, and to the south it extends to 26 Mile. The park is situated on the North Branch of the Clinton River.

Unlike other Metroparks, the nodes of activity in Wolcott Mill are not connected by roads. Each one is accessible through a separate park entrance, and to drive from one to another requires exiting the park. Although these nodes will likely remain separated for vehicular traffic in the near future, plans are underway to improve non-motorized connections among the various centers of activity.

The historic nature of the park means that the average building age is much higher than that of other parks in the system. Several date back to the mid-1800s. Preservation of these structures is important and pose special maintenance challenges.

Cultural History

The gristmill that gives this park its name dates back to the mid-1800s, when milling was an essential industry in Michigan and Macomb County. The mill was built in 1845 by one of the important early families in the county, the Freemans, and passed through several other hands before being sold to Frederick Beech Wolcott in 1878.

After Wolcott's death in 1921, his children continued operation of the mill, converting to electrical power and selling flour to bakeries in Detroit. The mill closed in 1968, was briefly planned as an agricultural campus for Macomb Community College, suffered vandalism and the removal of the house structure, and was transferred to HCMA ownership in 1979.

Activities

- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Camping
- Learning about farm animals and history
- Picnicking
- Photography

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	2850

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	10 / 91
Service bldgs / avg age	4 / 72
Comfort stations / avg age	2 / 114
Road miles	1.82
Parking lot acreage	4.53
Playgrounds	1
Percent of park mowed	2.1
Picnic shelters	3
Sand volleyball courts	1
Baseball fields	0
Fishing platforms	1
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	0

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	0
Nature Trails	0
Rustic Hiking Trails	3.03
Equestrian Trails	8.63
Cross Country Ski Trails	0
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	5.33
Total	16.99

Community Plans

Ray Township	
Master Plan Update Working Paper	2016

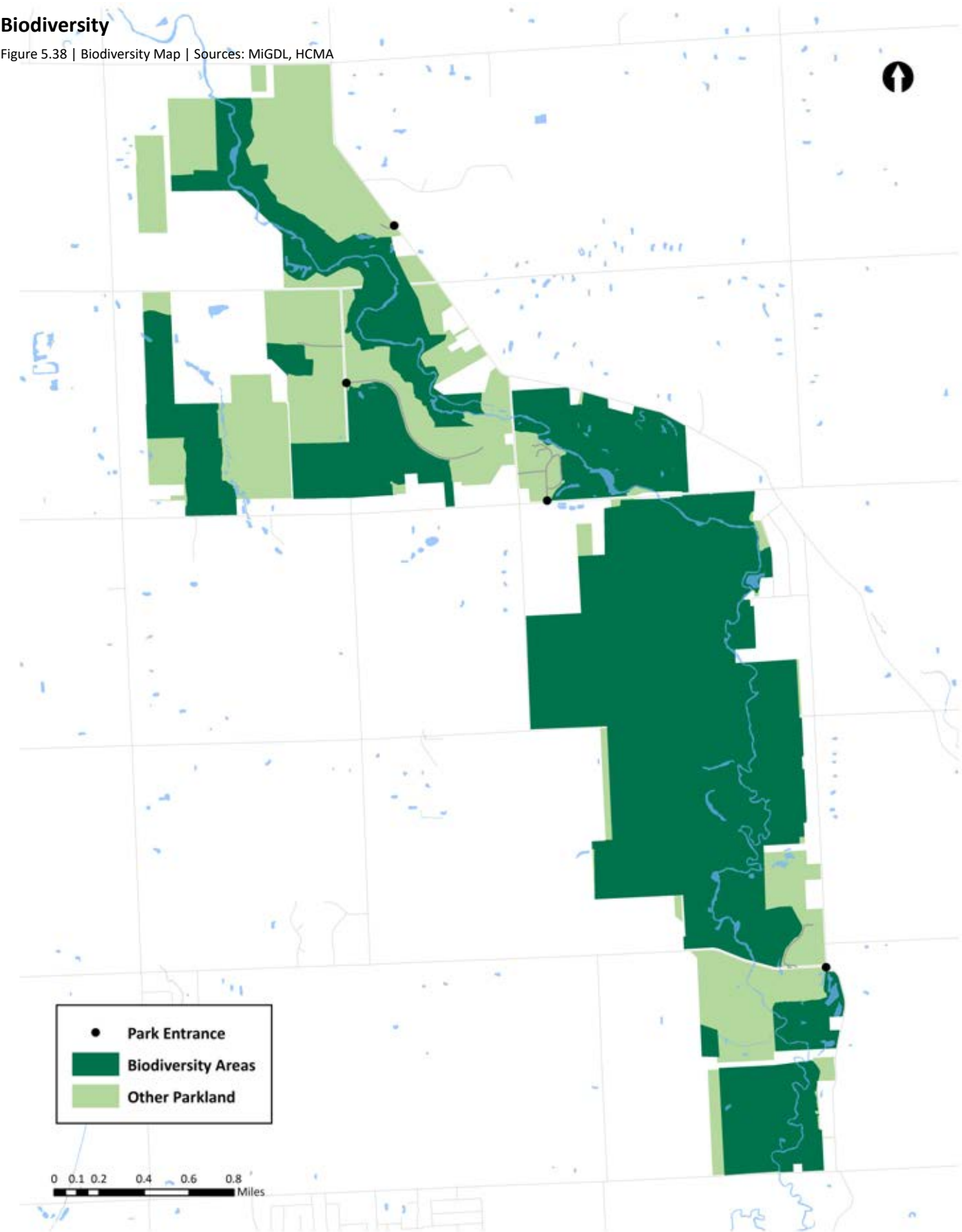


Figure 5.37 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



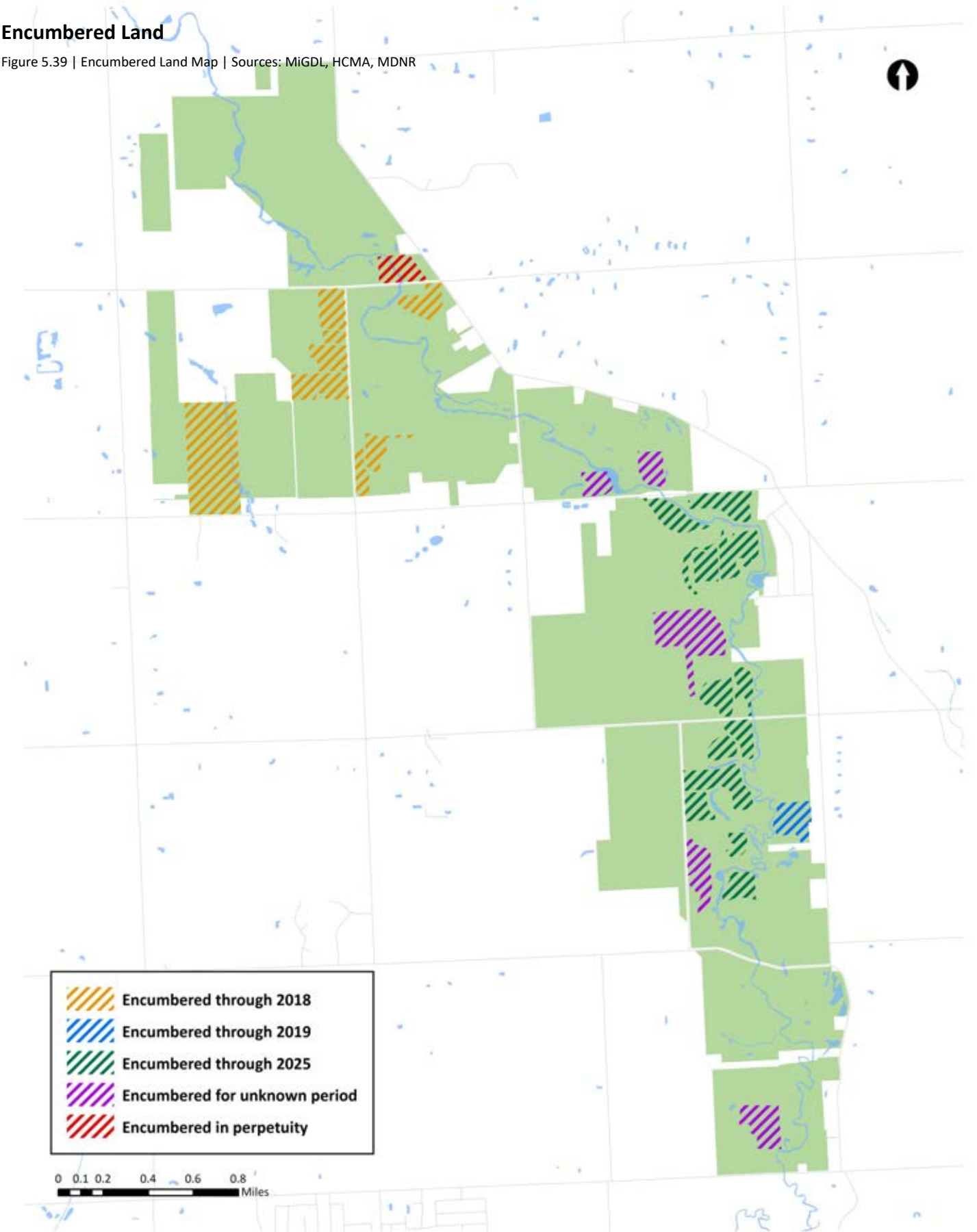
Biodiversity

Figure 5.38 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.39 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Encumbered through	Type	Amount	Current Condition
26-00857	Conversion Mitigation—Stony Creek	2012	Perpetuity	Mitigation	-	No conversion of use
-	USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Native Prairie Restoration*	2008	2018	Restoration	\$16,653	Maintained
-	EPA GLRI Floodplain Restoration*	2016	unknown	Restoration	\$352,147	Ongoing, maintained
-	DEQ Section 9 Grant /USFWS Floodplain Restoration*	2015-16	2025	Restoration	\$290,960	Ongoing, maintained
-	DTE Community Forests Grant Forest Restoration*	2016	2019	Restoration	\$6,186	Maintained

*These grants were not awarded through the LWCF, Trust Fund, Clean Michigan, or Recreation Bond programs.

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier - Farm Center	3

Figure 5.40 | Accessibility Map | Sources: Google, HCMA



INDIAN SPRINGS METROPARK

Indian Springs Metropark is located in the western half of Oakland County. Most of the park is within Springfield Township, but the southern portion extends into White Lake Township.

At its northernmost extent, Indian Springs nearly reaches Big Lake Road. To the east it runs along the railroad line and reaches Crosby lake, to the west it extends beyond Hillsboro Road, and its southern boundary is White Lake Road and Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area. The park is situated on the Upper Huron watershed, at the headwaters of the river.

Indian Springs is primarily used for hiking, golf, cross country skiing, and family outings. The Spray 'n' Play has several children's attractions for family enjoyment, such as a maze, playground, and splash pad. The Environmental Discovery Center features an underwater pond viewing room and helps visitors of all ages learn about the high-quality habitat preserved through this park. It also provides a beautiful rental space for special events.

Cultural History

About 12,000 years ago, Native Americans were the first to walk the land around Indian Springs Metropark, creating foot trails through what is now Oakland County. During the 1800s, European settlers arrived to find land rich with rivers, lakes, prairies, and dense white pine forests – perfect for farms, new homes and settlements. The foot trails became roads while prairies became farms. Pine forests were cut and non-native plants and animals were introduced, changing the character of the land.

In 1833, the Garner brothers from New York traveled the foot trails from Pontiac, slept outside overnight, and likely built a temporary shelter on the way to their new property. They were one of the first families to settle in this area.

Activities

- Cross country skiing in winter
- Exploring the Environmental Discovery Center
- Strolling the nature trails and native plant garden
- Picnicking with family and friends
- Horseback riding
- Spending time at the Spray 'n' Play
- Enjoying a round of golf
- Holding weddings and events at the banquet facility

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	2509
Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / avg age	3 / 24
Service bldgs / avg age	5 / 32
Comfort stations / age	1 / 21
Road miles	3.44
Parking lot acreage	4.73
Playgrounds	2
Percent of park mowed	2.7
Picnic shelters	5
Sand volleyball courts	2
Baseball fields	1
Fishing platforms	0
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	0
Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	5.08
Nature Trails	7.27
Rustic Hiking Trails	0
Equestrian Trails	2.81
Cross Country Ski Trails	11.49
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	6.98
Total	33.63

Community Plans

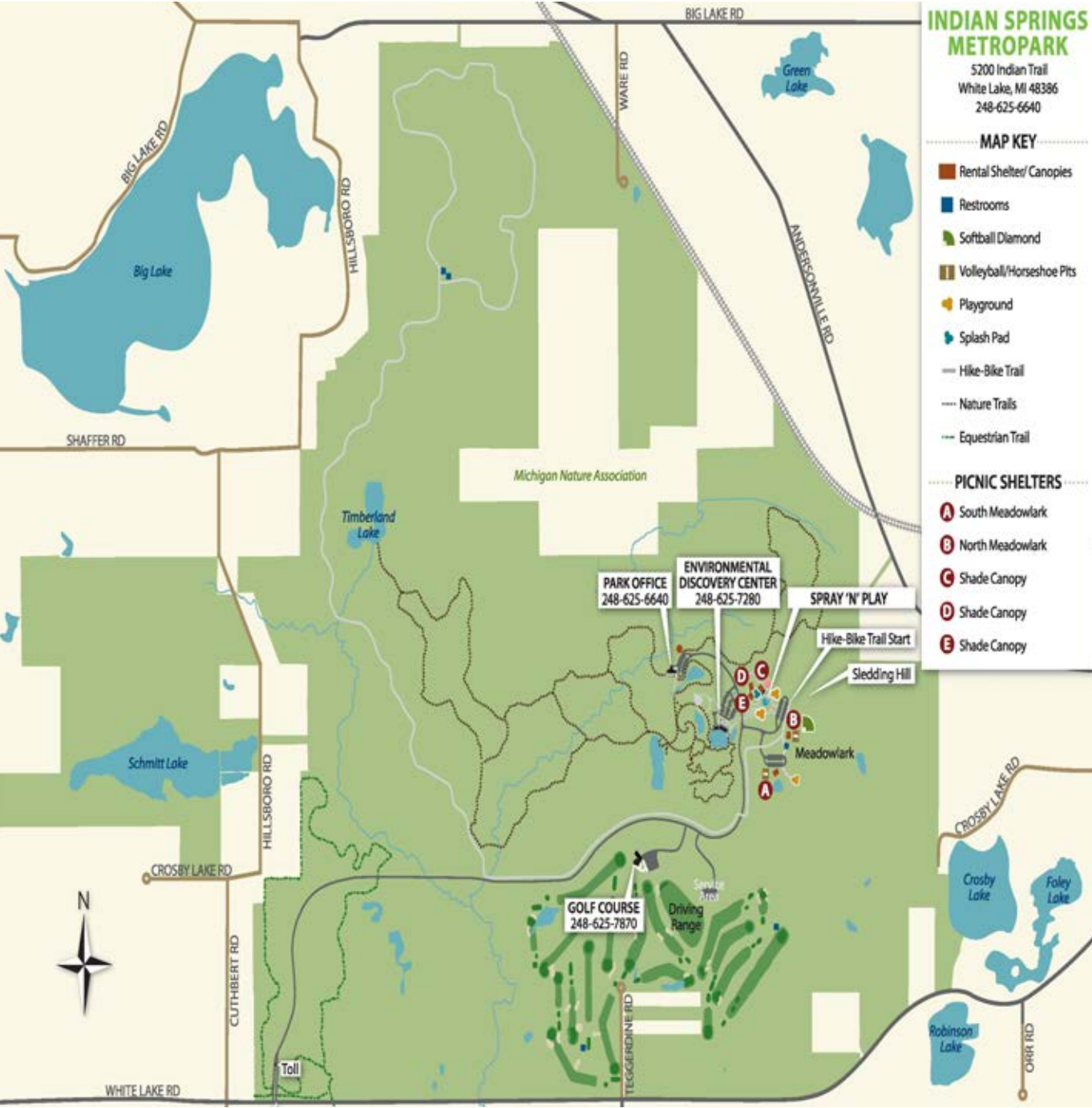
Springfield Township	
Parks and Recreation Plan	2013
Master Plan	2009
Shiawassee Basin Preserve Master Plan	2003

White Lake Township	
Capital Improvements Plan	2015
Recreation Plan	2013
Master Plan for Land Use	2010



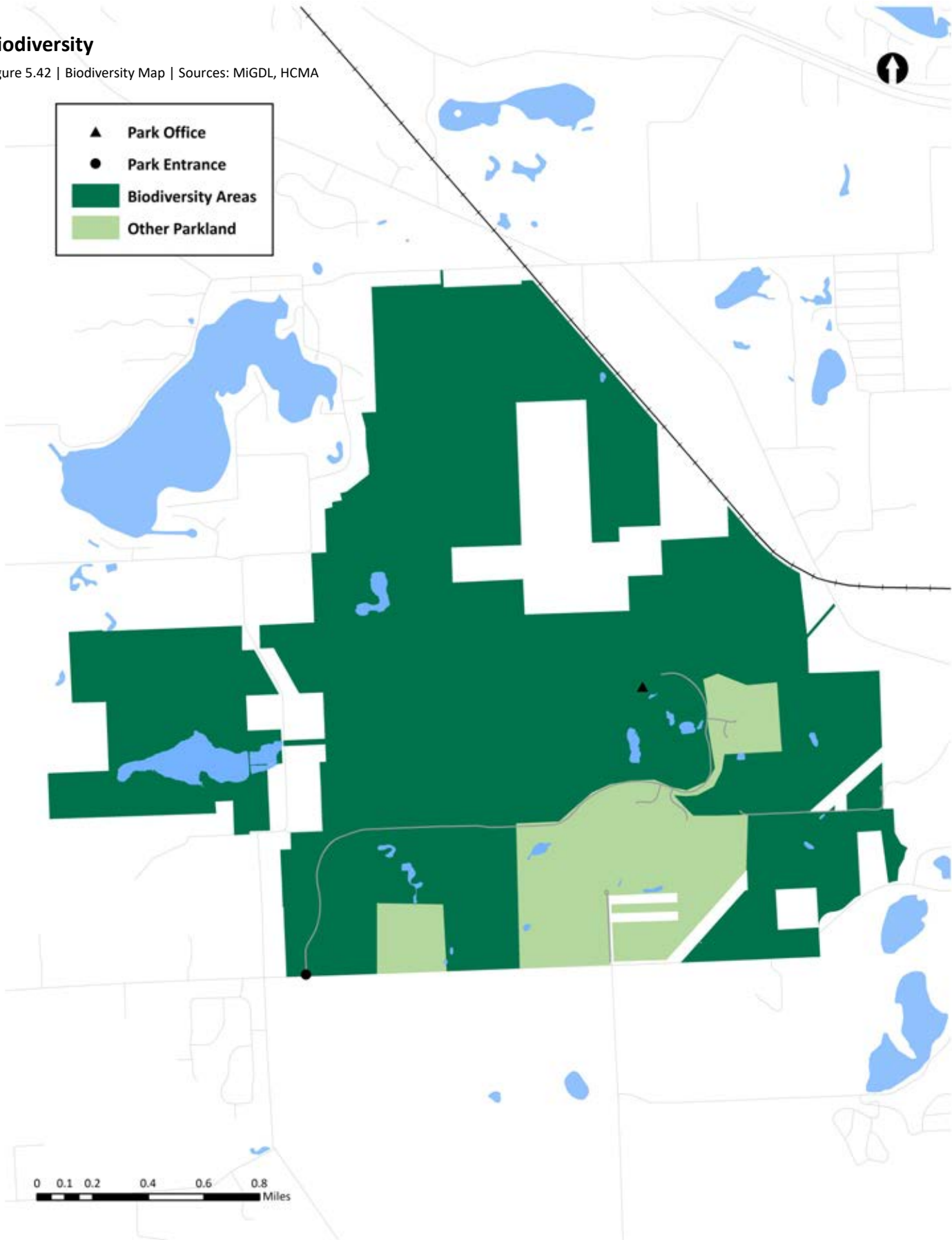
Park Overview

Figure 5.41 | General Map | Sources: MIGDL, HCMA



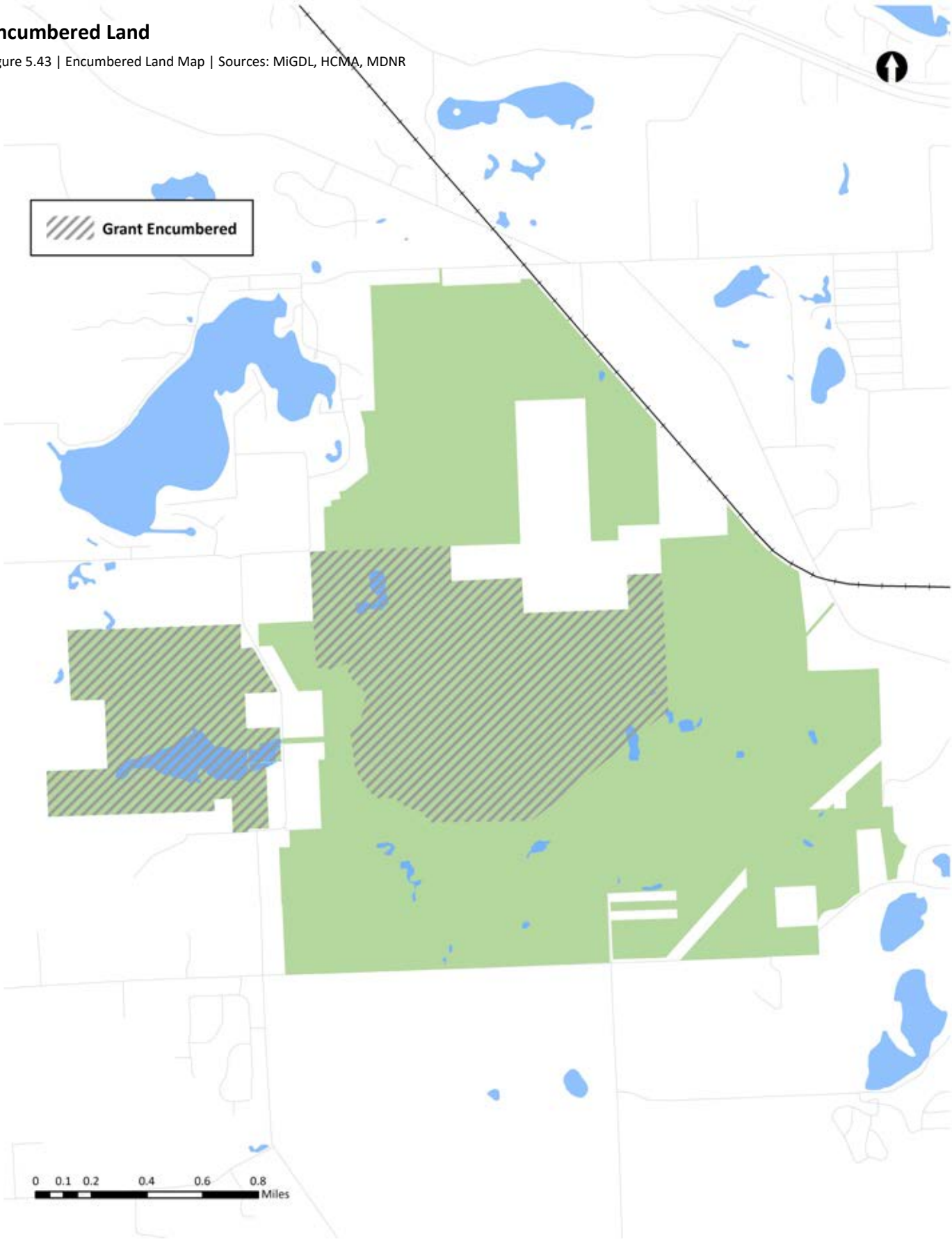
Biodiversity

Figure 5.42 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.43 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR

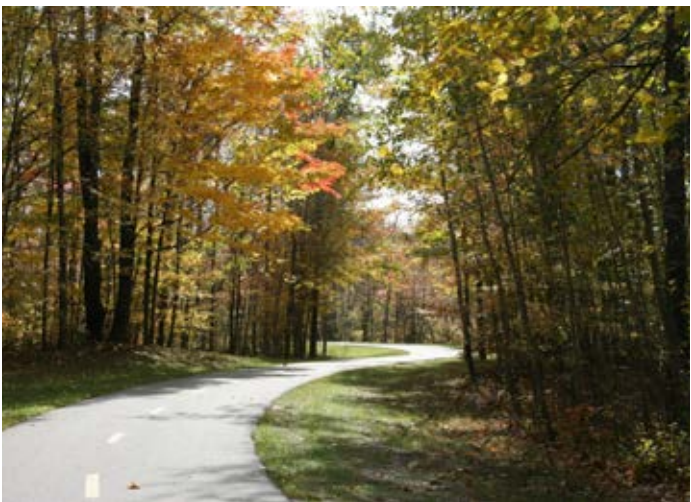


Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Conditions
26-01490	Indian Springs Nature Trail	1992	Development	Closed	\$ 65,000.00	Amenities added
TF07-028	Indian Springs Metropark Land Acquisition	2007	Acquisition	Closed	\$ 1,426,000.00	Continued use for hiking and nature observation

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Golf Course	3



HURON MEADOWS METROPARK

Huron Meadows Metropark is located in Livingston County, near its southern border with Washtenaw County. All of the park is within Greek Oak Township, and it abuts Hamburg Township.

At its northernmost extent, Huron Meadows reaches Maltby Road. To the east it borders Whitmore Lake Road and US-23, to the west it extends about halfway between Rickett and Hamburg Roads, and its southern boundary is Winans Lake Road. The park is situated on the Chain of Lakes creekshed within the Huron River watershed.

Huron Meadows is primarily used for hiking, fishing, paddling, skiing, picnic outings, and golf. Cross-country skiing has become an extremely popular activity at this park due to the extensive, well-maintained trails. This requires trail maintenance and grooming, as well as snow-making in dry periods.

Cultural History

The area enclosed by Huron Meadows Metropark was the first land to be tilled by settlers in Livingston County. Stephen Lee and Almon Maltby arrived in Michigan from New York to take advantage of the fertile soils. Lee built a saw mill on Ore Creek, north of the park, in what is now Downtown Brighton. Their children, Hannibal Lee and Henry Maltby, purchased more land in the area for agriculture and grazing. Other land holders purchased land south of where Hammel road is now, but the 1832 Black Hawk War in Illinois and Wisconsin stirred fears, and the land changed hands several times.

The land that is now the golf course and Maltby Lake area was acquired in 1977, completing Huron Meadows Metropark. The herd of cattle and bison that grazed here are gone, replaced by white-tailed deer and Canada geese. Because the land was never heavily developed, many portions of the park are rich in biodiversity.

Activities

- Exploring the rustic hiking trails
- Cross country skiing in winter
- Canoeing and kayaking on the Huron
- Picnicking with family and friends
- Fishing on the pier
- Playing volleyball, baseball, soccer, and more
- Enjoying a round of golf

Statistics

Park Classification	
Park Type	Regional/Metropolitan
Park Size (Acres)	1573

Infrastructure	
Public bldgs / age	1 / 15
Service bldgs / avg age	6 / 50
Comfort stations / avg age	2 / 13
Road miles	2.12
Parking lot acreage	2.36
Playgrounds	2
Percent of park mowed	2.8
Picnic shelters	3
Sand volleyball courts	2
Baseball fields	1
Fishing platforms	2
Tennis courts	0
Ice skating rinks	0
Basketball courts	0
Public canoe/kayak launches	1

Trail Miles	
Hike-Bike Trails	0
Nature Trails	0
Rustic Hiking Trails	9.45
Equestrian Trails	0
Cross Country Ski Trails	12.67
Mountain Bike Trails	0
Other Paths	5.12
Total	27.24

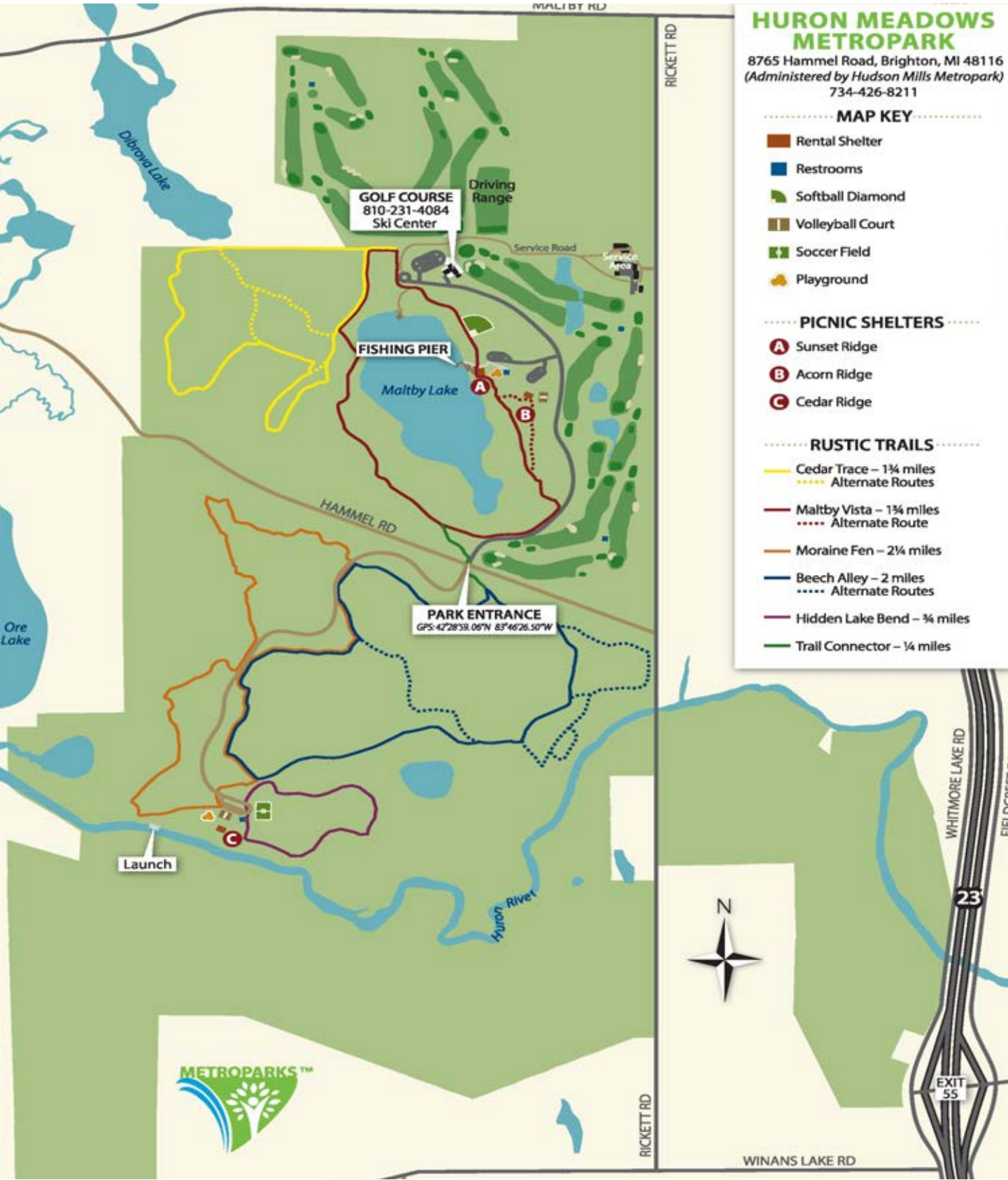
Community Plans

Green Oak Township	
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	2015
Master Plan	2014



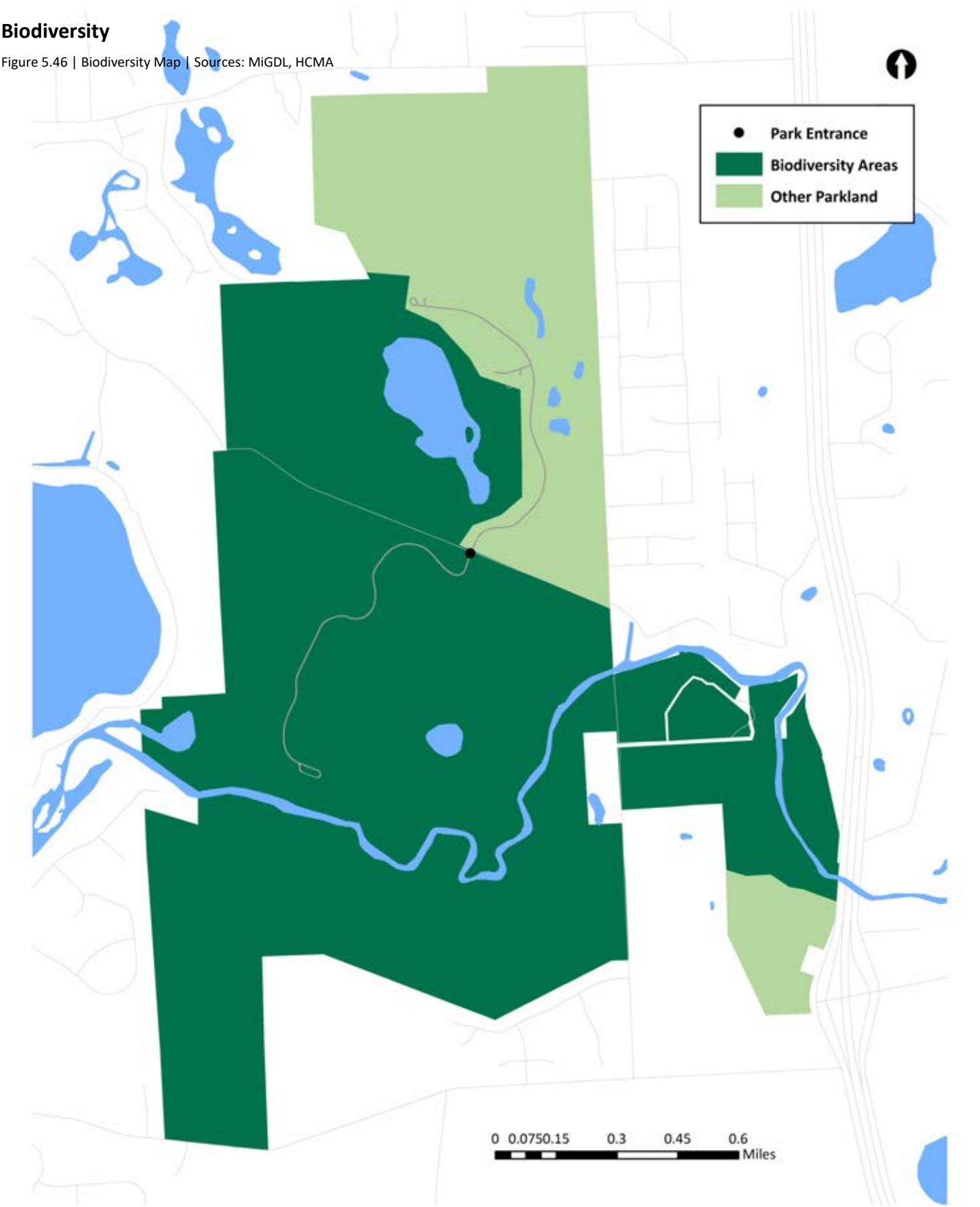
Park Overview

Figure 5.45 | General Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Biodiversity

Figure 5.46 | Biodiversity Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA



Encumbered Land

Figure 5.47 | Encumbered Land Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, MDNR



Grant History

Number	Name	Year	Type	Status	Amount	Current Conditions
26-00201	South Metropolitan Parkway (Huron Meadows)	1970	Acquisition	Closed	\$ 7,000.00	Maintained within park boundary—no conversion
TF99-118	Maltby Lake Access and Play Area	1999	Development	Closed	\$ 180,000.00	General maintenance

Accessibility

Facility	Accessibility ranking
Fishing Pier—Sunset Ridge	3
Golf Course	3



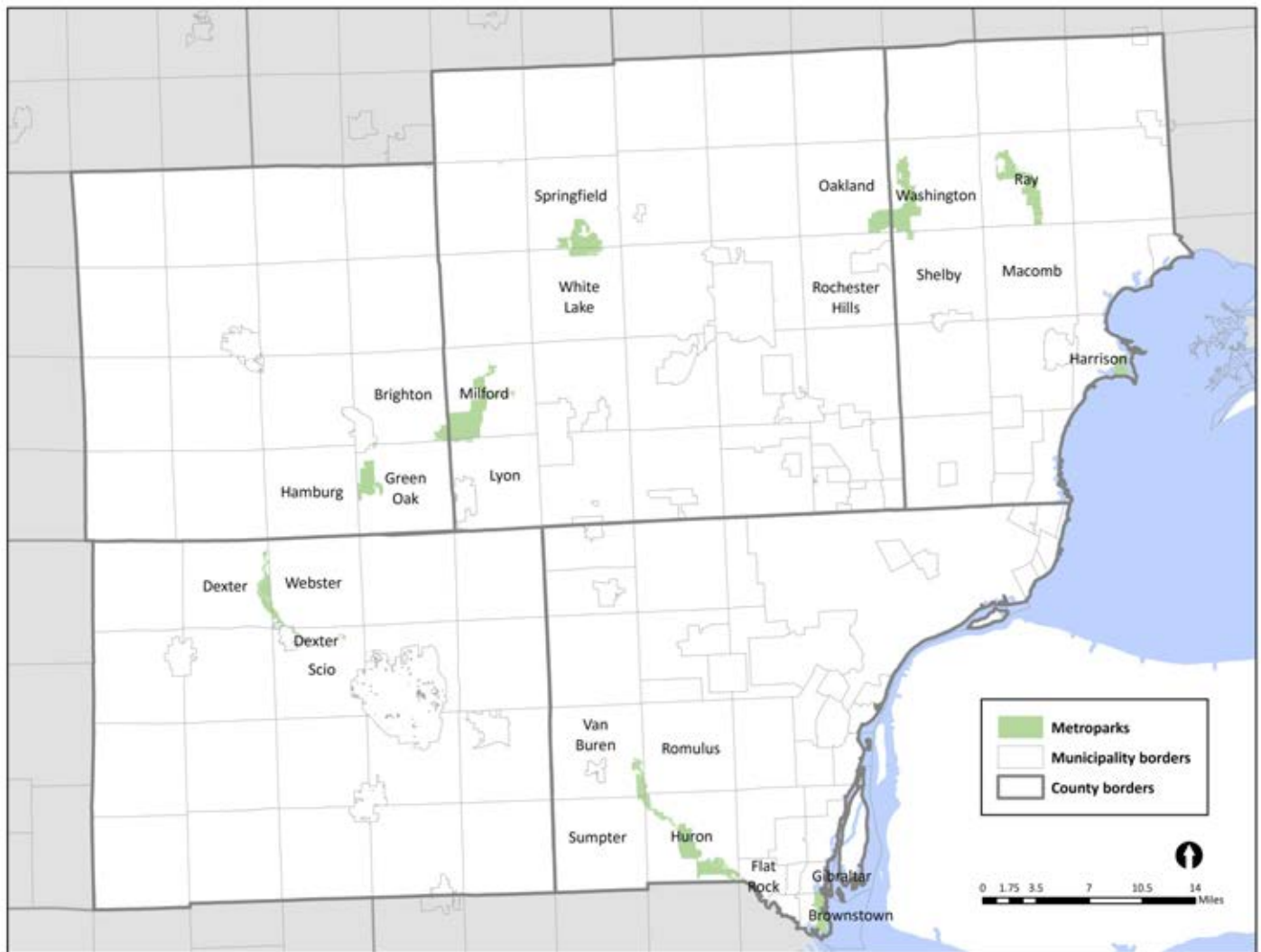


Figure 5.49 | Municipality Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA

The above map identifies all municipalities that either contain or border a Metropark. Although the Metroparks serve residents from across the five-county area, these municipalities are particularly relevant to the planning process. HCMA staff work with municipal staff to request building and signage permits, to develop trail connections, to address encroachments, and much more. The residents of these cities and townships benefit from extraordinary natural and recreation resources so close to their homes. In a region that suffers from excessive sprawl, the parks protect undeveloped land and make Southeast Michigan more beautiful.

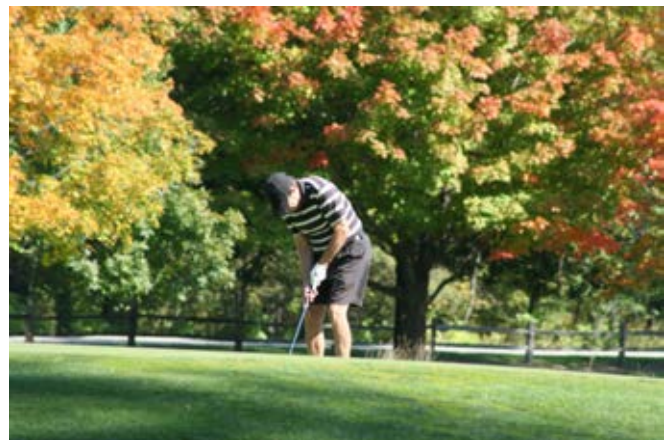


REGIONAL RECREATION ANALYSIS

The five counties served by the Metroparks contain a wide array of recreational facilities operated by state, county, and local governments. Understanding what activities and amenities are offered at each helps the Metroparks create unique attractions that fill recreational gaps and complement existing facilities. The Metroparks welcome collaboration with other providers of recreation, as evidenced by regional trail linkages, reciprocal waterpark overflow agreements, invasive species management cooperation, and other partnerships.

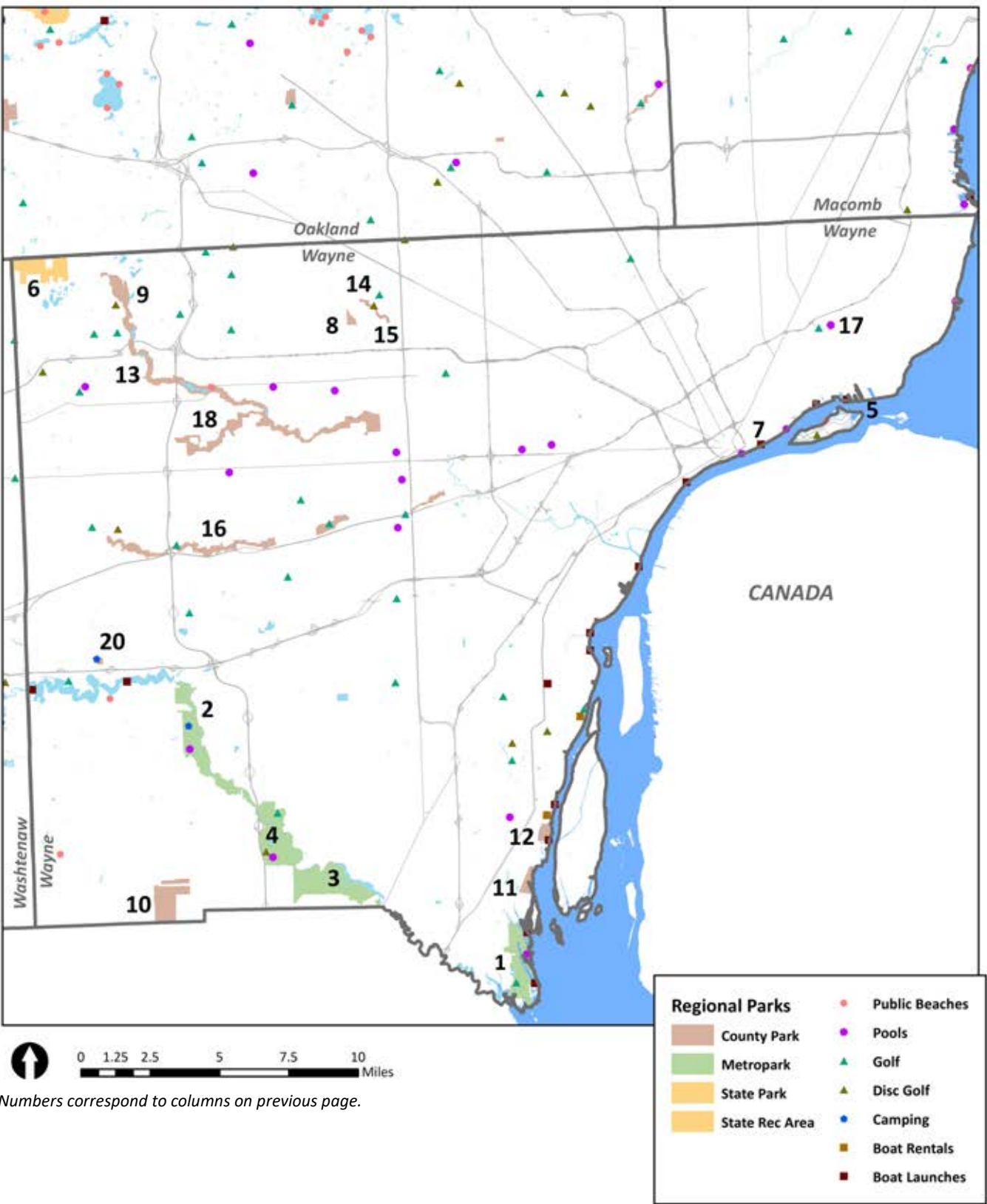
Due to the large land area covered by these five counties, the following charts and maps identify only state and county recreation. The local parks throughout this region are too numerous to include, but remain important locations for daily recreational activities.

The chart for each county notes the activities and facilities available in each park as a means of comparison. These are accurate to the best knowledge of Metroparks staff, but may contain errors or omissions. The numbers at the top of each park column correspond to that park's location on the county map. These maps also highlight the distribution of select recreational facilities: public beaches, pools, golf courses, disc golf courses, campgrounds, boat launches and rental sites.



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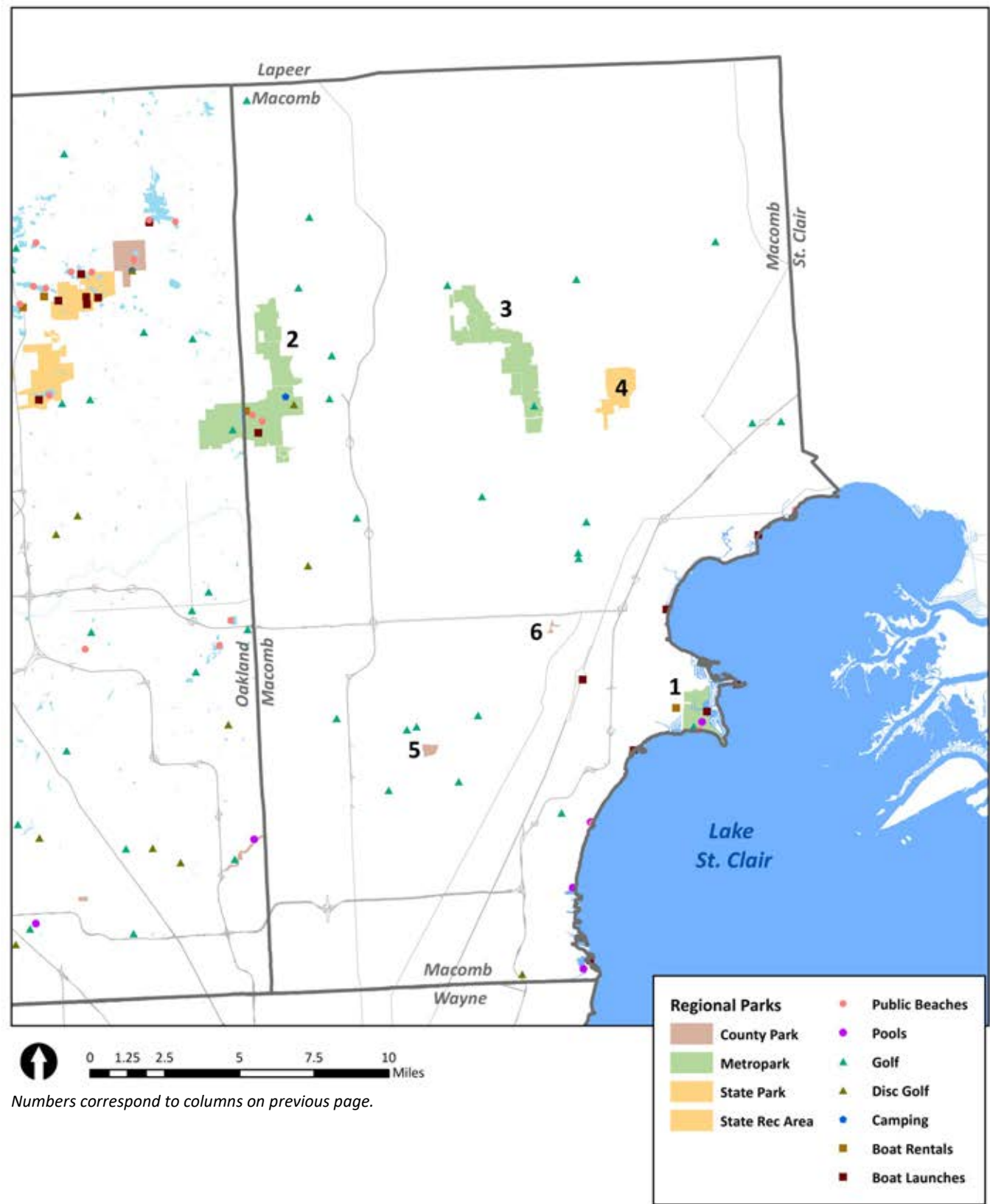
Figure 5.50 | Wayne County Recreation Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, Wayne County website



Macomb County

		1	2	3		4		5	6			
MACOMB COUNTY COMMUNITY RECREATION INVENTORY	HCMA	Lake St. Clair Metropark	Stony Creek Metropark	Wolcott Mill Metropark	MDNR	Wetzel State Park	COUNTY	Freedom Hill	Nicholson Nature Center	TOTAL ACREAGE		
PARK ACREAGE	ACRES	789	4435	2850	8074	900	900	100	N/A	9174		
PICNICKING												
PLAYGROUNDS												
MARKED HIKING TRAILS												
MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS												
SHARED-USE PATH (HIKE-BIKE)												
NATURE TRAILS												
EQUESTRIAN TRAILS												
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING												
SNOWMOBILING												
SWIMMING BEACH												
SWIMMING POOL												
SPRAY PAD												
INFLATABLE SLIDES/OBSTACLES												
BOAT RENTAL												
BOAT LAUNCH												
MARINA												
CANOEING / KAYAKING												
SHORE FISHING												
DOCK FISHING												
BOAT FISHING												
ICE FISHING												
ICE SKATING												
ICE SAILING												
SLEDDING												
TOBOGGANING												
HUNTING												
NATURE STUDY AREA												
NATURE CENTER												
FARM												
GARDENS												
HISTORICAL BUILDINGS												
MUSEUM												
TENNIS												
BASKETBALL												
SHUFFLEBOARD												
IN-LINE HOCKEY												
SKATE PARK												
SOCCER												
SOFTBALL / BASEBALL FIELD												
GOLF COURSE												
FOOT GOLF												
DISC GOLF												
SHOOTING RANGE												
BMX BIKE TRACK												
EVENT FACILITIES												
COMMUNITY FACILITY												
RUSTIC CAMPSITES												
MODERN CAMPSITES												
CABIN RENTAL												
GROUP CAMPING												
CANOE CAMP												

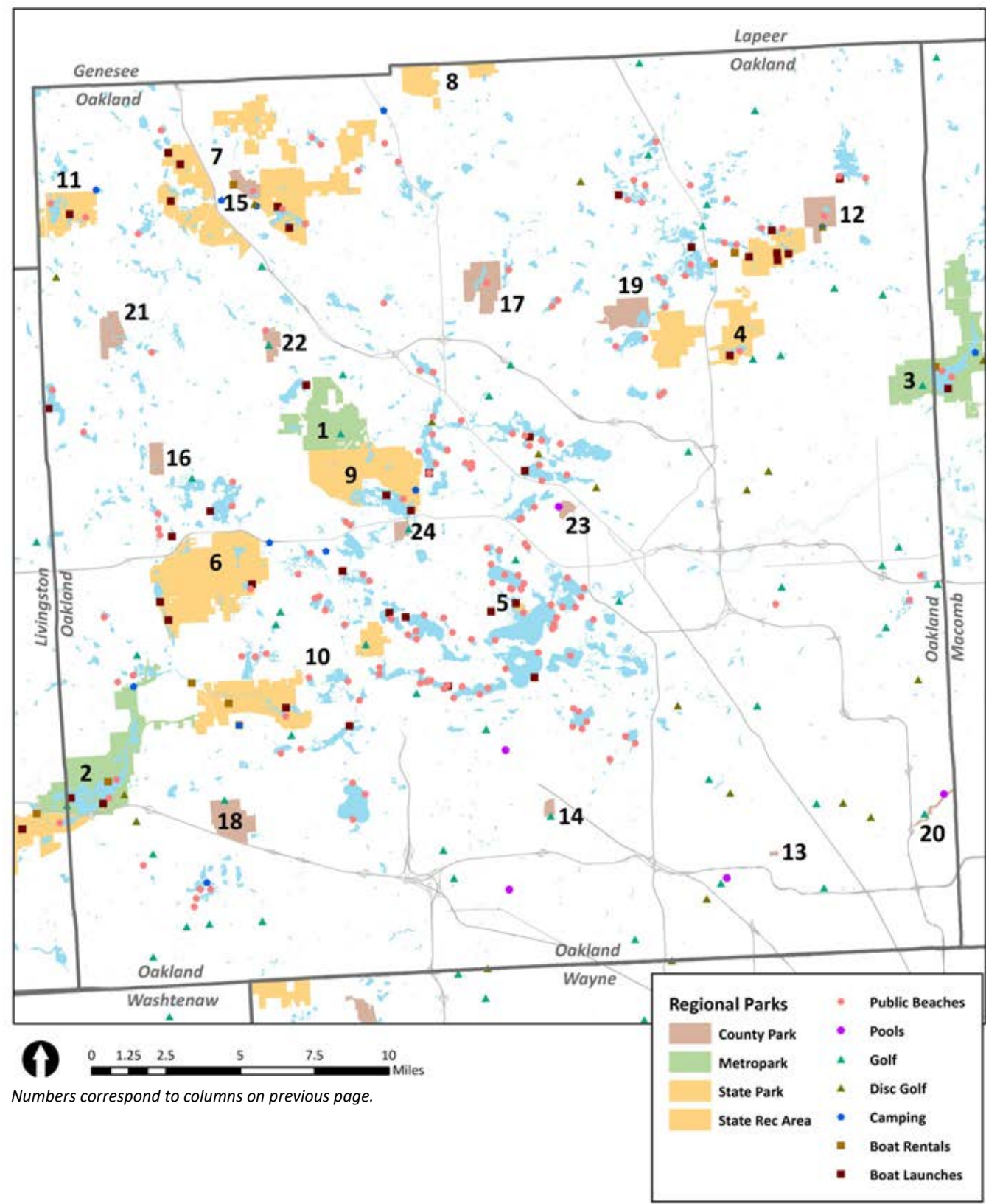
Figure 5.51 | Macomb County Recreation Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, Macomb County website



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Figure 5.52 | Oakland County Recreation Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, Oakland County website



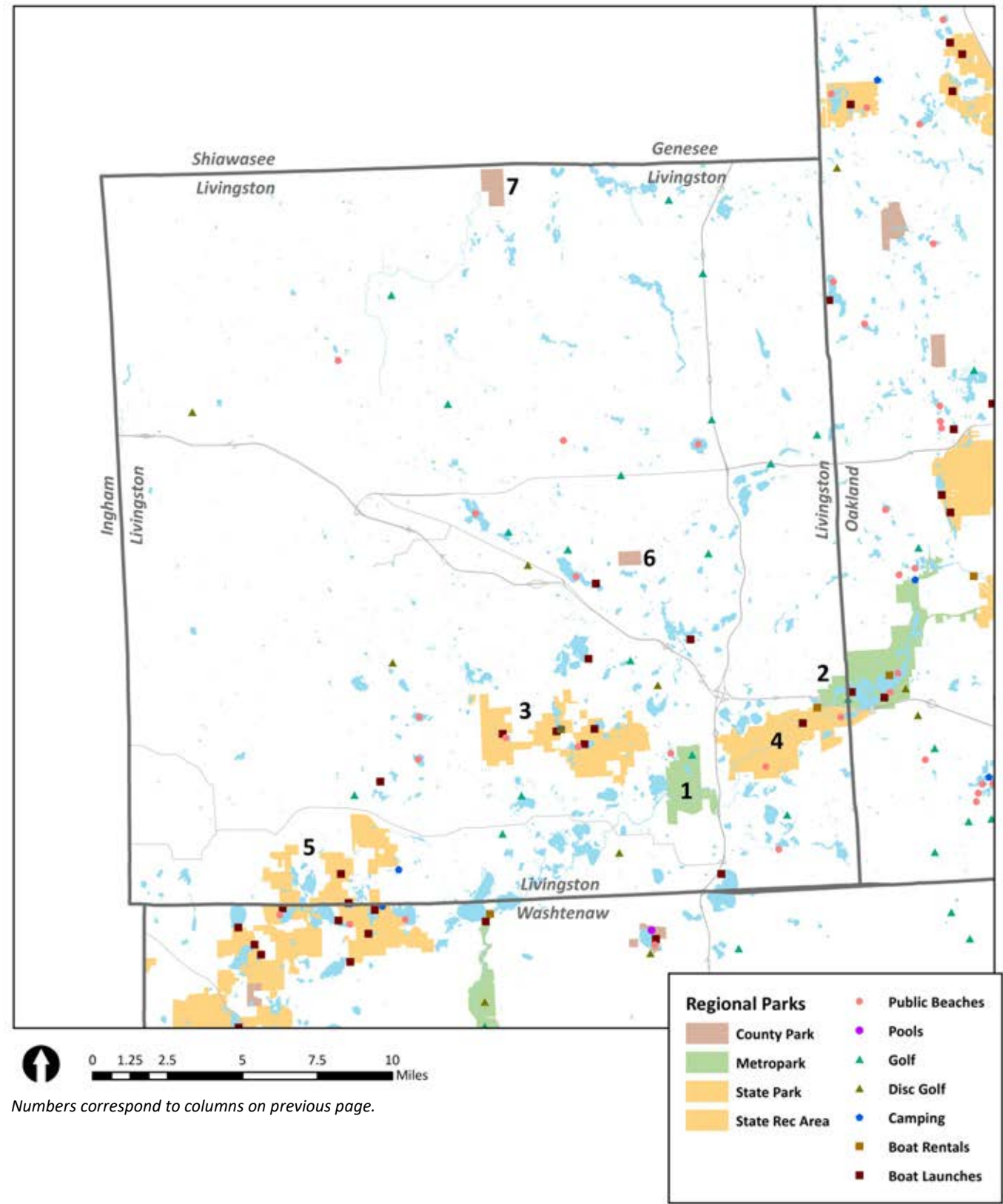
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5 | RECREATION INVENTORY

Livingston County

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Figure 5.53 | Livingston County Recreation Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, Livingston County website



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Figure 5.54 | Washtenaw County Recreation Map | Sources: MiGDL, HCMA, Washtenaw County website

