

Appendix J: Outdoor Recreation & Open Space

As a result of the Issue Identification Panels, there were **three goals** that emerged in the area of outdoor recreation and open space.

These three goals were voted on by respondents who participated in the subject matter expert survey.

Table 1. Percent of subject matter experts who prioritized each goal in the area of Outdoor Recreation & Open Space

		Count	Percent selected
Goal 1.	Outdoor recreational users in Minnesota understand the environmental issues that impact those activities (e.g. habitat loss, invasive species, toxic ammunition), are meaningfully engaged in conservation efforts, and have adopted more sustainable practices when needed.	65	38%
Goal 2.	All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative outdoor recreation.	62	36%
Goal 3.	Parks and trails receive funding for maintenance and enhancement, on par with the funding for developing or creating new parks and trails.	41	24%
	<i>Other</i>	5	3%
	Grand Total	173	100%

Because Goal 1 and Goal 2 were closely matched, in terms of the amount of support from respondents to the subject matter expert survey, participants at the Prioritization Panel were asked to prioritize one of them.

The Prioritization Panel participants selected Goal 2 as the highest priority, but modified it slightly to read as: *All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative **connections to the lands and waters of Minnesota.***

Subject matter experts who participated in the Prioritization Panel were asked to review strategies recommended by survey respondents relating to Goal 2. All of the strategies submitted by survey respondents are included in the next section below. Panel participants were invited to revise strategy ideas or come up with their own, and as a group they prioritized six strategies that would be necessary to achieve the goal. Those six strategies, in no particular order, are:

- Address the social, economic, and physical barriers to outdoor recreation through programs that encourage inclusivity and address inequities.
- Research people’s interests in outdoor recreation and understand barriers to participation.
- Assess programs, activities, and physical spaces for their accessibility; support changes to adapt and retrofit to welcome more people.
- Through collaborative efforts, provide curriculum, programs, and outdoor environmental events that teach K-12 students what public lands are, introduces them to public lands near them, and encourages them to explore local public lands.

- Through partnerships between schools, environmental learning centers, and other community resources, provide evidence-based, engaging programs to bring students to outdoor experiences.
- Capital projects that develop culturally relevant, accessible, and resilient outdoor recreation facilities, infrastructure, and equipment rental programs that create innovative experiences (including parks, trails, fishing piers, shoreline fishing areas, birding trails, shelters, etc.).

The following provides the full list of strategies for the area of **Outdoor Recreation & Open Space** that were recommended by subject matter experts who responded to the survey. They are organized by goal.

Please Note: These strategy recommendations are provided verbatim, as they were submitted through the survey. Therefore, they may contain errors or typos. They have also **not** been vetted for alignment with the ENRTF mission or charge, and may therefore not be allowable strategies for the ENRTF to pursue or include in its strategic plan.

Goal 1 – which 38% of survey respondents prioritized: Outdoor recreational users in Minnesota understand the environmental issues that impact those activities (e.g. habitat loss, invasive species, toxic ammunition), are meaningfully engaged in conservation efforts, and have adopted more sustainable practices when needed.

- Research for invasive species, improve existing habitat, add more habitat in appropriate areas
- Continued monitoring, analysis, strategy development, and implementation of methods to manage and eradicate invasive species. Additionally, engaging stakeholders in these strategies will be critical.
- Education and outreach
- Remonument all Section corners in the State
- Effective education through on-the-ground demonstrations at Parks, Nature Center and other points of confluence for people using recreational opportunities in MN
- Since the focus of the goal is users, the strategy should be education and outreach.
- Research/demonstration projects that include a communication/education component.
- education/Extension outreach and programs and applied research to support it
- Hard to achieve this goal with out maintenance and enhancement so the goal should have components of both. More than education the strategy would be to quantify the level of understanding that people has on the impact/importance of open spaces and recreation have on their life and livelihoods.
- More research and education on invasive species is essential
- incentive programs for adopting sustainable practices.
- Continued education on invasive species for all boat users
- research and education
- education
- better communication strategies to explain the issues beyond boring govt agency press releases
- Education
- Greater access to environmental education
- Changing the culture of outdoor enthusiasts by using community based social marketing techniques - identifying barriers, promoting behaviors, securing commitments, etc. We can develop a culture that takes pride in performing activities that promote environmental conservation by changing social norms.
- Education and research into how to most effectively deliver that education

- Education of the public is most important when trying to engage them in conservation efforts and best practices. They need to know why doing these things is important and how it might affect them if they don't.
- ENRTF needs to support environmental education programming for all ages, in particular, a dedicated funding mechanism for educational organizations and community groups to get support and resources to integrate EE.
- Engage user groups to expand their recreational interests into environmental awareness and action.
- Environmental education - connection to the natural world occurs through recreation and after people connect we need to educate them on how to wise stewards of what they are enjoying.
- Research and demonstration associated with adaptive forest management techniques to address invasives and global change
- Establishing clear checks and balances when permitting activities
- State agency staff have part of their work program dedicated to providing outreach and education to citizens, developing partnerships and meaningfully engaging community groups and members.
- Educating the public. Particularly at the local level to get buy-in in order to promote for larger audiences.
- Education
- Education
- More outreach and education to MN citizens is needed to make them aware of impacts of habitat loss, water quality degradation, and invasive species
- environmental education activities offered at the various parks- maybe working towards a 'badge' of some kinds that indicates a wide range of exposure to these activities.
- integrate educational information to the places (real and virtual) used by those recreating
- Education and outreach
- collaborative efforts on research, education/engagement, and assessment. It cannot be done by one strategies.
- On a regular and sustained basis, provide articles, videos, descriptive content, and other materials dealing with key open space issues for use by newspapers, newsletters, webpages and other communication outlets
- Work with sporting goods stores to develop a culture of protecting natural resources.
- Find ways to restrict movement between areas with invasives and non-impacted areas. Move beyond research, education, and measurement to serious demonstration by enforcement.
- Education, perhaps including park areas that highlight problems
- Education - a concerted effort to provide ecologically accurate information in a variety of ways to help people understand how our actions affect habitat and outdoor recreation.
- Develop partnerships with community-facing organizations with ability to reach and educate a wide variety of Minnesotans (zoos, botanic gardens, museums, schools, volunteer organizations)
- Outreach campaign to educate hunters and anglers regarding (and the general public) about threats to resources.
- Research, particularly research engaging the community (citizen science), can directly engage users while enhancing understanding of issues.
- Adopting and training the public in Broman and Robert's 4 science-based, peer reviewed sustainability principles
- More environmental education and outreach to the general public on how research, natural resource management and restoration impacts their enjoyment of the outdoors.
- Funding to umbrella user groups to educate their members
- Connect the impact of the climate crisis to the harm inflicted on habitats water and air through research and demonstrations to combat the harmful impacts
- Education and Demonstration

- Fund education experiences for users where it is facilitated by professionals, e.g. not simply outdoor recreation. Also, fund users to engage with individuals and organizations where the user sees/learns of models that support positive change toward addressing the issue.
- Support projects to evaluate effectiveness of toxic ammunition replacement programs. Support research to evaluate the effectiveness of habitat restoration.
- Promoting an integration of research and outreach would help.
- Offer opportunities to subscribe to news or Facebook postings with current information
- diverse and innovate education and engagement
- research and education
- Measurements especially related to invasive species
- More educational signs at parks and trail entrances - there are some and they are great.
- Each park could develop an educational experience identifying how the park is affected by the issues
- Look to our neighboring States and see what they are doing, what is working, and what is not
- Research
- Find ways to engage new communities (for example Native American; urban dwellers, recent immigrants) in outdoor activities and make environmental issues an integral part of this effort.
- Demonstration - people often need to see the impacts and/or results of conservation efforts and practices.
- Behavior, efforts have to be made to promote positive behavior towards nature by using recreation and open spaces as vehicles.
- education
- Research to develop strategies to either remove, treat, or somehow utilize invasive species.
- Providing more opportunities for youth to get involved
- leading/demonstrating activities in the field
- Research
- Taking down the large organizations who exploit our natural resources - you know who they are.
- Continued research to better understand what methods are effective for counteracting these issues.
- Effectively communicate the importance of natural resources for ecological value, not just recreation.
- Marketing Campaign specific to user groups
- Dedicated funding for more environmental education in K-12 to expose students to natural resource issues and help them understand what it means to be effective stewards.
- Measuring the impacts, or showing cause-effect, to determine a programs success.
- Demonstration
- PSAs or pop-up ads on cellphones, etc.
- Case study and exemplary demonstration
- Find more ways to engage people in citizen science, habitat restoration activities, and other hands-on activities, perhaps through new partnerships between various conservation agencies and organizations.
- Signage at public access points.
- Sharing best practices through education is key to achieving environmental sustainability
- Training county parks and open space commissions and city park commissions on their potential to move policies through the local democratic process.
- Support projects to remove invasive species and research long-term effectiveness of those efforts.
- Ask resource users to report invasive species or provide information to help people ID invasive species
- Research in how people view and interact with management

Goal 2 – which 36% of survey respondents prioritized: All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative outdoor recreation.

- Education and outreach
- Use demographics to define groups so as to provide all Minnesotans with an environmental experience. This is important for building support for environmental initiatives.
- Provide investments for DNR and local resource professional to engage with school districts to establish outdoor extra curricular events e.g. high school fishing clubs
- Provide assistance to schools, parks and environmental learning centers to enable all Minnesota youth to make a connection with their parks and outdoor recreation resources.
- Impactful education for all groups, especially minority groups because they usually either don't have access to or are not introduced to these outdoor activities.
- Land purchase for conservation/recreational use
- Early education and engagement so that youth learn to value natural resources and want to invest in their protection.
- Looking at access opportunities, identifying gaps, and funding work to protect open space and provide recreational opportunities
- Public programs for taking inner city youth to the parks. I would love to help out with such a program, but don't have the bandwidth to get it off the ground
- providing outdoor, experiential educational opportunities
- We need curriculum and transportation funding for K-12 schools to introduce kids to the concept of public lands and that allows them to explore or encourages them to explore their local public lands. Most of our citizens cannot define "public lands" and cannot list the public lands nearest to them or the recreational activities available at these locations. This is a public health concern as well as an environmental/conservation concern. How can we protect what we don't even know exists?
- Increasing the amount of and quality of accesses to water resources (e.g., boat ramps, shore fishing locations) and preventing any barriers to water recreation (e.g., boat ramp fees, off-site inspection requirements).
- I think you should expand on your definition of "outdoor recreation." I think we should think of this as connections to the outdoors and land of MN.
- Educational outreach in particular with public schools with a high percentage of students with free/reduced lunch.
- Ensuring that local green spaces (and not just baseball fields) are valued and supported and preserved in neighborhoods of small, medium sized towns. Large cities have some capacity already, but can also be enhanced. Large state and regional parks are wonderful and much better for non-human habitat, but daily visual and physical access to local green spaces is very important for human habitat.
- Put more emphasis on creating opportunities for underrepresented people in urban areas
- Review of already developed strategies that are related and getting to the target audiences to listen to them.
- building trails, landings, parks, hosting events, introducing young people to outdoor activities
- Research that identifies effective ways to increase outdoor participation by Minnesotans. Answer this: what will get people outside and lead (presumably) to valuing wildlife and the outdoors?
- Education via demonstration
- Research on barriers to outdoor recreation
- Create more areas for outdoor recreation.
- Develop programs that encourage inclusivity and address inequities that lead to unequal participation in outdoor recreation

- Providing culturally relevant programming combined with a research/evaluation component to measure effectiveness and impact and contribute to the field of knowledge
- Provide funding for in-classroom and in-field exposure to outdoor recreation
- In all areas regarding outdoor and recreation space we have seen a decline in avid outdoors people. I know firsthand on Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation we are seeing the number drop dramatically when it comes to hunting and gathering and keeping to our traditional ways that we are not seeing as many young people pick up the ways of our older outdoor generations. I think we can combat this issue as well as others by offering education and demonstration.
- Determining what recreational activities or modifications to physical spaces would welcome more people to outdoor recreation areas
- Outreach to underserved communities
- citizen science-based activities that educate while participating in assessments of species, habitats, etc.
- promotion and adapting to social changes/patterns
- Stipends for low-income households to increase participation in camps, and/or reducing other barriers such as time away from work to take a child to camp.
- Creation and maintenance of green space for outdoor recreation where Minnesotans live and work.
- Resources in multiple languages and formats
- Developing outdoor recreation opportunities in underserved urban areas.
- Programs that introduce young people to the outdoors
- Schools (pre-K through college) should have outdoor education opportunities built into their curricula.
- Education segments on the health of the environment (addresses lead shot, invasive species etc) and the ecosystem services that natural lands provide for all grades K-12. If kids understand and enjoy being in nature and in natural lands they will be stewards for the future.
- Providing funding for environmental learning centers across the state. Our experience with these organizations has been more beneficial than Girl scouts and Boy scouts for learning the value and fragility of our public lands. Environmental learning centers teach about the outdoors and ecology but also leadership, team work and many other qualities.
- Funding access and camp programs, like through schools that foster contact with wild spaces, that tell the stories of how those landscapes have changed through time and the peoples that have depended on them, and actions that can help us learn about those landscapes (like through community science activities).
- educational opportunities to take kids outdoors, establishing their relationships with the natural environment early in life
- Emphasize innovative outdoor recreation, that has an impact. Offer different levels of recreation engagement: casual, introductory, meaningful, etc.
- Staffing commensurate with numbers of users
- partnership with local school systems to develop curricula for outdoor recreation and education
- Support projects that get youth Outdoors
- Guided activities accessible to underserved communities. Nature based experiential learning opportunities like Wolf Ridge and Eagle Bluff provided to students in underserved school districts.
- Figure out (research) what will entice young people outside to use Minnesota's amazing natural areas, then (second step) work to implement these things across our state.
- Increase the diversity of staff and volunteers within the organizations (governmental and nonprofit) that are delivering outreach, interpretive programming and environmental education programming. Objective is that all young people may be able to recognize themselves in the people delivering those programs, receive culturally-appropriate programming and be inspired to become conservationists, whether professionally or as citizens.

- Addressing barriers to participation (transportation, access to public spaces, understanding what is available).
- Consider outdoor recreation/participation beyond traditional park use as a way to engage broader audiences - extended school experiences, preschool family opportunities in local parks, enhance state forest promotion for gathering and other cultural uses
- Developing more opportunities for inexpensive outdoor recreation, such as shorefishing sites or kayak sites.
- Engagement - learning about interests in outdoor recreation and barriers to participating in outdoor recreation; addressing social, economic, and physical barriers; offering facilities and programs appropriate to these participants. Programs and efforts may need to be intergenerational in nature. An important aspect of these efforts may need to be staff professional development.
- Thinking about innovative programs to get people out into natural areas. Using things such as iNaturalist etc. It would be great to key into what kids are using - snapchat, instagram - instead of highlighting these as the enemy.
- Removing state park parking pass to encourage greater participation and in return greater support for funding state parks
- Improving opportunities to access and discover outdoor spaces and recreation benefits linked to education and public engagement on environmental impact and conservation efforts has benefits in public valuing of outdoor recreation and open space and thus environmental issues.
- Bring students to more outdoor experiences. Use applied scientific research to facilitate engagement. Perhaps a natural resources internship that are short and engaging.
- Education programs and developing facilities such as fishing piers and shore fishing areas, shelters for summer and winter use, affordable equipment rental programs.
- Regional distributions so socio-economics (e.g., access to transportation) does not influence access to recreation.
- Technology is continuing to be the source of entertainment for youth. Recommend investments to study or develop technology (as entertainment) that requires greater interaction and understanding of outdoor recreation. Geocaching comes to mind as one effort but I'm sure there other ideas that haven't been created yet
- All students have multiple opportunities to experience outdoor recreation. Encourage partnerships between schools and community resources including environmental learning centers to facilitate sharing of staff expertise and equipment. Promote and provide training for formal and informal educators to integrate outdoor experiences and outdoor recreation across the curriculum.
- Another strategy might be to fund transportation and lunches for these young people so they actually are exposed to these activities.
- Research to determine what engagement strategies work (i.e., what strategies help engage MN citizens and lead to a lifelong connection with natural places and spaces)
- Focus on innovation. Digital connections and non-consumptive uses are rising. Using apps like iNaturalist or taking photos can help get people outside and connected to what they see.
- More 'free days' at state parks, and possibly buses from large cities to the parks (only needs to run on select weekends)
- Work with the health care industry to promote outdoor recreation as a health prevention tool. Work with health insurance providers to offer free park permits, like gym memberships, to allow low income folks to access these public spaces.
- Include historic and ongoing connections to the land of indigenous peoples as a model for interacting with the landscape.

- Offering financial park aid to towns & cities, BUT only if these entities create & enforce planning & zoning ordinances that preserve green space. e.g. Towns should require a green space/landscape plan with every development and require at least 25% of land stay as open space or green space. Towns must not fear they will lose a developer over green space. Note that the argument that we need denser housing for affordable housing means that poor people will have homes without green space!
- Share the stories of culturally relevant and innovative outdoor recreation with those same audiences to motivate others to have fun outdoors.
- Management strategies that open up lands to recreation - WIA, for example - and acquisitions of new lands for Minnesotans to use. Sometimes the hard part is finding a nearby place to go.
- Developing programs that are not "one time" experiences.
- Education and outreach
- Support for capital projects that develop culturally relevant outdoor recreation facilities and/or infrastructure for innovative experiences
- If you look at the permits issued across the state off and on the LLBO Reservation and gather the age of the permits issued, you will see a pattern of no new outdoors people taking part in the various activities. The younger generation is less inclined to seek out that knowledge and in part of that is the fearfulness of rejection or not having anyone to teach them. If we could develop a state broad approach to increasing outdoors activities I believe all would see an incline.
- Focused curriculum in schools about natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities
- Getting young people out of classrooms and into the outdoors, visiting streams to explore what lives there while learning what supports the life they see.
- Welcome activities for new immigrants that include outdoor programming or information on outdoor recreation opportunities in MN
- Support for outdoor events that feature a park, trail or conservation issue.
- Have all kids have a certain amount of "field days" as part of MN science curriculum. These would be influential and memorable field trips to private natural lands, state parks or state natural areas where kids would be able to explore and learn from experts about the habitat, wildlife, and why it benefits us all to have "wild" lands.
- Funding partnerships that will work to preserve and maintain parks as well as provide programming. Organizations like local river and lake groups support volunteer work and the YMCA has been working to provide programming in local parks. Make the money go further by investing in partnerships.
- Demonstration spaces of actions people can also take in their own spaces that have tangible impacts, i.e. native plant rain gardens, smart usage of winter salt , etc.
- access to these areas of the state; more opportunities closer to the metro to experience outdoor recreation
- Work with Division of Forestry to manage the vegetation age class and related features within parks
- Expansion and continued protection of parks and wilderness
- I suspect that native americans don't see themselves much in our concept of parks and preserved natural areas. We need to figure out how to engage these communities as well as recent immigrant communities.
- Ensure all young people have ready access to high-quality natural spaces near them. This will involve strategic protection of land, restoration of degraded habitats, improved accessibility via public transportation, and making programs more culturally-diverse (e.g., through use of language, deeper historical and cultural interpretation).
- Determine how all Minnesotan's want to participate in outdoor recreation. What will increase participation?
- Education - increasing opportunities for outdoor recreation and environmental education in formal and informal settings

- Include environmental studies and statewide initiative like National Park System for all students in i.e. 4th grade free parking pass
- Improving access should include not only young people, but also people of all abilities.

Goal 3 – which 24% of survey respondents prioritized: Parks and trails receive funding for maintenance and enhancement, on par with the funding for developing or creating new parks and trails.

- Allow agencies and LUG's apply for maintenance funding.
- As much as outdoor spaces are required, it is equally important to understand where these can be developed with minimal env impact. Education around land use, wetland, rezoning in cities needs to be encouraged
- Maintaining existing facilities should be a priority.
- Monitor funding year over year
- This is basically an infrastructure question. Similar to aging infrastructure outside the world of parks and trails people don't seem to understand how quickly these resources fall apart. Education of citizens and elected official is critical.
- Maintaining what we already have is vitally important. If we do not have resources to maintain and enhance what we have, we should not build new sites.
- Timely repair and maintenance of high-demand facilities to provide high quality recreational experiences.
- Identification of the gap for maintaining the asset and public value of the asset.
- Rain Gardens, educational parks
- Providing funding for the basics especially to smaller municipalities or other managing bodies.
- Have funding for current trail maintenance, but to include trail connection via new trails. Make the trails have a meaningful route
- A crumbling infrastructure necessitates repairing/maintaining existing facilities, rather than acquiring more.
- Prioritization of state outdoor rec strategies for use by LCCMR in recommending resources and for legislature in awarding funds.
- A program for funding all trail upkeep. A per mile contribution to trail maintenance to all public trails.
- Education of lawmakers and governing officials, as well as the public, about the benefits of parks and trails (Return on investment)
- Consistent funding would provide for the ability to maintain existing facilities while providing the opportunity to focus enhancements and improvements to those areas of highest quality recreational opportunities.
- Complete a comprehensive assessment of all Minnesota State Parks & recreational areas to understand current conditions and usage, then develop a funding plan to address the highest needs over the next five years.
- The trails could be enhanced to provide learning experiences for users to include things like plant species and pollinators
- We must maintain what we have as well...no real worth in creating a park and not keeping it functional.
- I selected funding to maintain and enhance because it's the most elusive, easily overlooked strategy but critical to providing all Minnesotans the opportunity to experience and benefit from outdoor recreation
- With the legacy amendment, we have focused a lot of "new things" and not maintaining the heritage and infrastructure of our parks and trails.
- ENRTF funds are allocated for rehabilitation and enhancement of existing parks and trails at a sufficient level.
- Fund projects that not only repair/maintain what was there, but change to become more resilient and responsive to climate change.
- funding for maintenance and upgrade

- Educating the general public about this relatively self-explanatory issue, hopefully building support for this type of funding. This is a big issue
- Develop trail centers/facilities to increase park use, especially in the winter.
- Community-based efforts to maintain parks and trails.
- Creating Trailhead Centers where people have safe access to both non-motorized and motorized trails.
- Investment in recreation infrastructure.
- adaptive management research: the use of the funding includes some type of monitoring and evaluation to assess whether the goals have been met so that modifications can be made to improve the outcomes
- develop and use equity metrics to help prioritize trail and park projects; prioritize projects that address issues identified in MPOSC's study of regional park use by people of color - such as wayfinding (presumably this list of issues would be common to state & county parks too); prioritize projects that enhance visual & sound buffers between parks/visitors and manmade infrastructure (esp roads); require fund recipients to follow dark sky standards for lighting and bird safe designs
- Re-evaluating ways to connect existing parks to reach more communities rather than trying to create more parks, especially when there is so much land being developed for residential use, more so in suburbs than the metro area.
- Design, develop, rehabilitate and manage outdoor recreation facilities to encourage use by people with all abilities.
- Maintenance and enhancement will need to be tied to a relevant water/habitat improvement metric.
- Find ways to measure maintenance of existing resources.
- Include trails that go from state parks to local cities. Increase connection for users.
- Outreach programs not only to youth, but communities of color as well.
- Clarity for LCCMR and legislature as to what constitutes supplanting.
- A gas tax for non motorize trails to help encourage people to develop habits to not use our vehicles for trips along trails.
- Saving native prairie sites is a key goal for us here
- Need to make sure that the parks have facilities for education and experiential activities to engage a new generation of Minnesotan's. Don't develop with boomer's or X'ers in mind, but what will millennials want. Also, we don't have a Yellowstone or Glacier park that is national park that is accessible to all. So, need to determine what state park is a crown jewel that can be enhanced and promoted.
- Fund projects that pay high school aged youth to do some of the maintenance work, helping achieve goal #2 and teach job/life skills
- flexibility to research and try new strategies (e.g. different accessibility strategies; ecosystem management with fire; variety of vegetation and/or wildlife management strategies)
- Increase the quantity of permanent staff who do maintenance and enhancement.
- Leadership group to evaluate recreation needs and establish statewide strategy for proving next generation opportunities
- as much as the statement is 'maintain and enhance' - a missing key word is protect. how can parks receive funding to better protect existing high quality areas instead of funding after the fact to remove invasives - terrestrial or aquatic?

Other goal ideas offered by subject matter expert survey respondents for the area Outdoor Recreation & Open Space:

- I would broaden the first goal noted above tied to Parks and Trails to also include other public lands that allow recreational uses.
- Outdoor Recreation and Open Space is available and funded proportional to user type e.g. mountain biking opportunities available proportional to users or atv opportunities proportional to users and conflicting uses have proportional exclusive opportunities e.g. atv vs quite hiking
- All Minnesotans have access to opportunities for relevant and innovated outdoor recreation and are a part of understanding of the environment, activities impact it, and how to reduce negative environmental impacts.
- All Minnesotans have access to community-based public lands and open spaces that represent the full range of native biodiversity for their area.
- Securing additional open space by developing new parks and trails in areas without critical recreational opportunities in natural habitats

Other strategy ideas offered by subject matter expert survey respondents for the area Outdoor Recreation & Open Space:

- Monitor/research tied to the impacts of different recreational uses and the pros/cons to the public associated to each (Environmental impact, cost to the tax payer, etc.)
- Conduct analysis of existing opportunities and needs
- Co-locating projects at certain locations around the state maximizes the educational, research, and outdoor experiences. A habitat restoration or research project in isolation doesn't hold as much education, outreach, or outdoor value as a collection of projects that reinforce the importance of a given habitat. But DO NOT simply locate these at State Parks. LCCMR was not meant to simply replace DNR funding for things DNR should already be doing.
- Identify, protect, and restore representative sites of Minnesota's full range of biodiversity throughout the state.
- Developing new parks and trails in urban core areas, in suburban areas undergoing conversion to high-density development, and in new ex-urban developments
- Maintenance and Enhancement of our Public Recreation Units (invasives controlled, access/parking improved, trails fixed, campgrounds updated, etc.)
- Develop plan to fund and implement strategy to address opportunity needs identified in analysis above
- Make open space trails and parks a requirement of any new developments or redevelopments, including increases in density in urban environments.