



BARABOO RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN: PHASE II

SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN'S PREMIERE WATER
RECREATION DESTINATION

MARCH 6, 2019
FINAL

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Introduction

INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLAN BACKGROUND

The Baraboo River Corridor Phase I Plan effort was completed in Spring 2016 with communities along the Baraboo River within the Driftless Area of Southern Wisconsin. The result of the Phase I planning effort was a plan that provided recommendations to improve water quality and enhance the recreational use of the corridor. Partners in the Phase I planning effort included the Villages of North Freedom and West Baraboo, the City of Baraboo and Sauk County. Phase I was adopted by all four (4) entities in 2016 and recommendations are being implemented: creation of the Friends of the Baraboo River Corridor Group to oversee stewardship and events in the corridor; North Freedom ADA Boat Launch, Canoe/Kayak Launch and Shoreline Protection Project; Baraboo River Corridor River Shoreline Protection and Fish Habitat Development Planning Project; marketing research project on the entire Baraboo River Corridor. Funding for Phase I project recommendations is at nearly \$1.7 million.

The Baraboo River Corridor Plan (BRCP) Phase II has come to fruition because of the success and momentum that occurred with Phase I and related projects. The project area for Phase II is the Baraboo River and adjacent properties from the west corporate limit of the Village of North Freedom through the corporate boundary of the City of Elroy and the City of Hillsboro (along the west branch). This includes nine governmental entities and Vernon County (unofficially).

The benefits of the development of the entire length of the Baraboo River Corridor are not just county-wide, but regional. The BRCP sets the river up to be recognized regionally and even nationally as a water recreation destination, including not only the water trail itself but the various support facilities and services. The Plan will support collaboration among County, municipal and non-profit entities to maintain the river, develop amenities, and promote the corridor as a Southern Wisconsin destination.

1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

The BRCP Phase II planning process was spread over the course of approximately ten months. The process included

an inventory and analysis where the consultant team gathered and reviewed existing information pertaining to the study area, (as feasible) paddled sections of the river to evaluate existing conditions, assessed existing features and identified issues and opportunities. A large portion of the planning effort involved evaluating stakeholder needs to provide input on environmental, recreational, educational and other desired improvements. From the inventory and analysis and stakeholder needs assessment, this BRCP Phase II was created to identify goals and objectives for the corridor, develop conceptual plans and implementation plan and identify funding opportunities. The plan was completed by mid-April 2019 in order to meet State grant deadlines. Milestones in the planning process are shown on the following page.

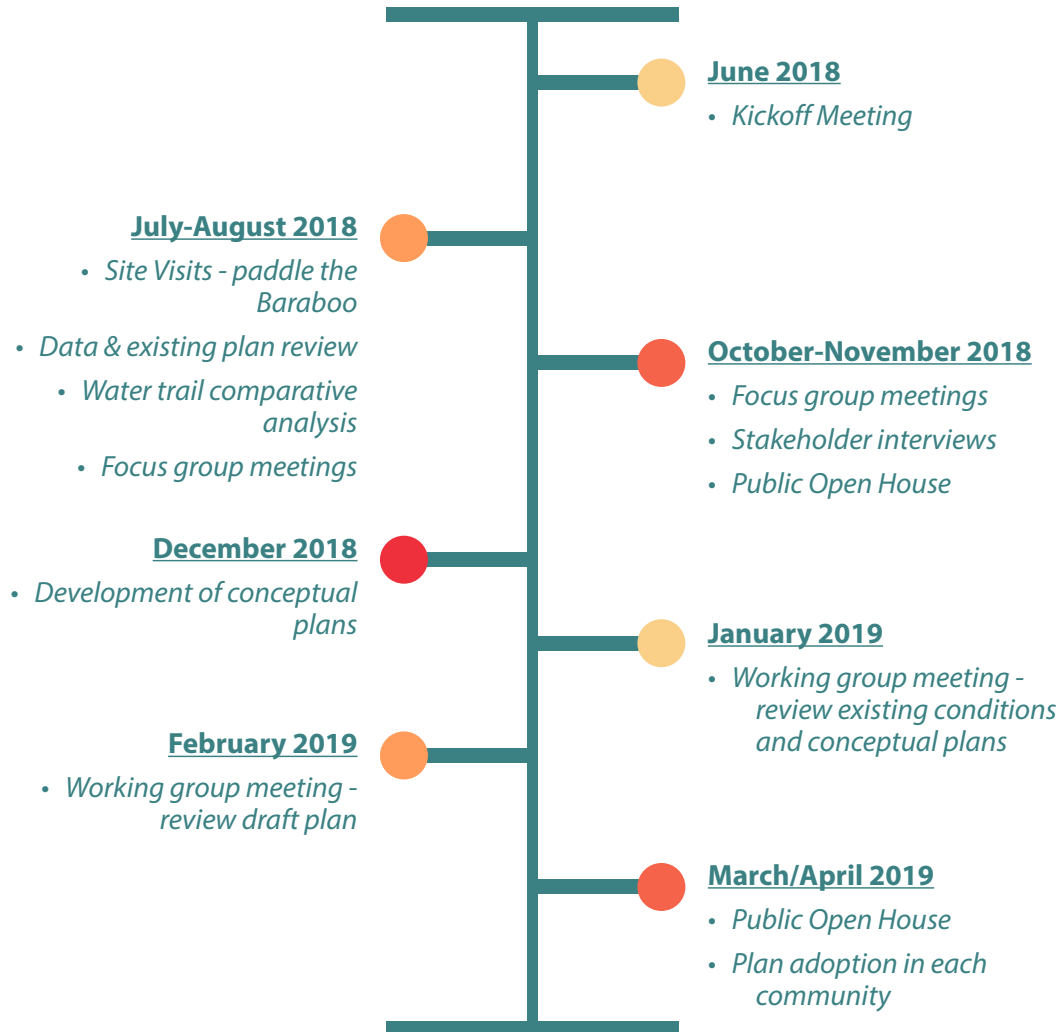
Next steps after the Phase II plan include applying for grant funding, building partnerships for future planning, and operation/maintenance of the corridor, then beginning to implement recommended park and recreation projects from this plan. These steps will lead the communities towards growing the corridor and making it a community and regional destination.

1.3 THE ROLE OF WATER TRAILS

In 2015 the River Management Society, a national nonprofit whose mission is to support professionals who study, protect and manage North America's rivers, released a report titled "An Economic Argument for Water Trails". The report summarizes notable findings from three economic impact studies. The report found evidence that in general water trail communities have lower poverty rates and higher education and health levels than communities that do not provide recreational opportunities. Additionally, recreational opportunities build community pride and provide stewardship opportunities that enhance social capital in communities.

The study found direct economic impacts from water trail tourists in the following areas: outfitters, lodging, restaurants and grocery stores, retailing and services, activities and transportation (including gas). In particular, lodging was identified as a necessity for communities that hoped to increase paddle tourism beyond local day paddlers.

Figure 1.1 Project Timeline



INTRODUCTION

Restaurants and grocery stores were found to have the highest probability of visitor expenditures (57% and 61% respectively). The study also reinforced the importance of communities having a diversity of tourism activities. While the study found that visitors spent the most days fishing on the water trail, the second greatest number of days were spent on other tourism activities including walking, picnicking, biking, and floating or relaxing beside the water trail. The number of days spent on other tourism activities was greater than canoeing/kayaking and motor boating.

The report notes that amenities for tourists are just as important as access points and signage to increase the number of paddling visitors. In the study, towns that already had dining, lodging and outfitters were more likely to see an increase in paddlesports when they advertised and promoted their water trails as compared to communities that did not provide

standard amenities for paddlers. The study found that standard amenities for paddlers include:

- Access to water
- Outfitters: rental and shuttling services
- Lodging: camping, bed & breakfasts
- Dining: restaurants, breweries, grocery stores
- Integrated recreation: hiking and biking paths
- Activities: museums, interpretive centers, and other activities
- Proximity: neighboring communities with similar amenities¹

These amenities are key to making the Baraboo River a paddling destination and are incorporated into Chapter 5.



1. <https://www.nrpa.org/parks-recreation-magazine/2018/june/recognizing-parks-and-recreations-role-in-economic-development/>

2

*About the
Corridor*

ABOUT THE CORRIDOR

2.1 LOCAL & REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Baraboo River runs through the following counties: Monroe, Vernon, Juneau, Sauk and Columbia. The focus of the BRCP Phase II effort is from the Cities of Elroy and Hillsboro down to the western limit of the Village of North Freedom. The entire corridor lies within the Driftless Area. The Driftless Area was never touched by glaciers and is known for its beautifully sculpted topography.

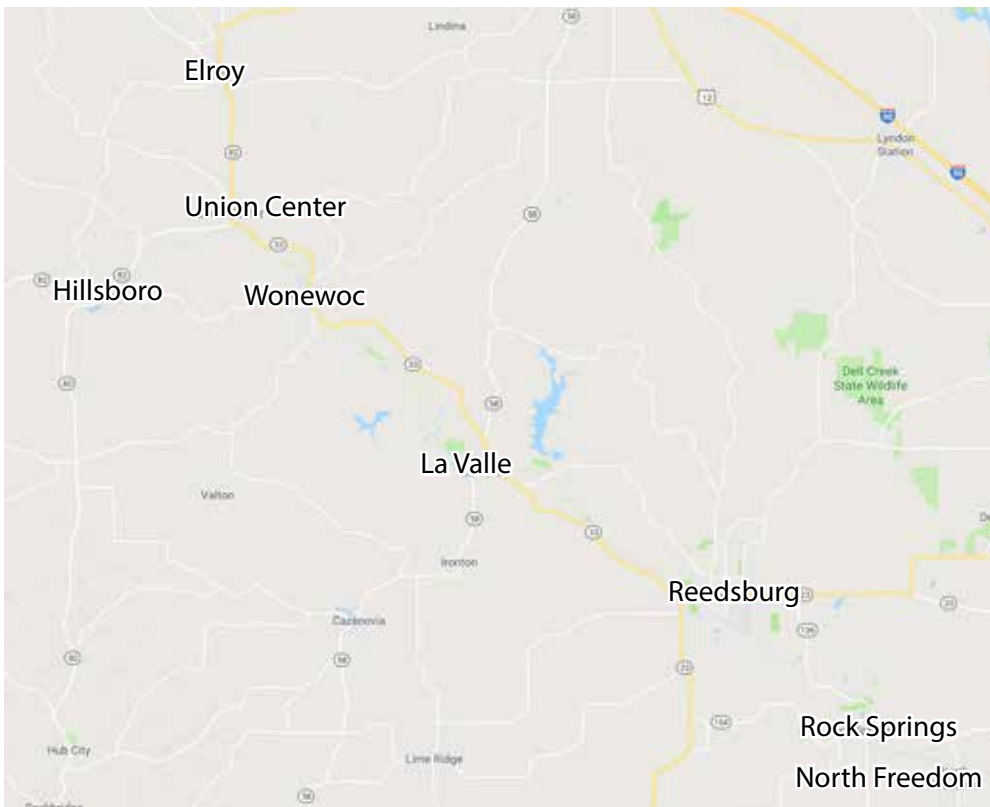
Sauk County is located in south central Wisconsin and is the fifth fastest growing county in the State. The total 2018 population in Sauk County, according to the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WI DOA), is 62,822. This population is supposed to grow by 23.9% in 2040 to a population of 77,815, according to the WI DOA. Sauk County has many qualities that contribute to such robust growth including its transportation corridors, high quality schools,

diversified economies, tourism, historic downtowns, four State Parks, 23 State Natural Areas and numerous opportunities for recreation.

The Village of Rock Springs is located approximately 50 miles northwest of Madison, 17 miles southwest of Wisconsin Dells, and 10 miles west of Baraboo. Rock Springs is situated on the northwestern edge of the Baraboo Range. The Baraboo Range is an oval ring of hills, approximately 30 miles long and 10 miles wide. Rock Springs is also the confluence of the Baraboo River and Narrows Creek.

The City of Reedsburg is located approximately eight miles northwest of Rock Springs and approximately 16 miles southwest of the Wisconsin Dells. Reedsburg is not on a major transportation route, the nearest interstate is I-90/94, which is about 15 miles northeast. The busiest transportation route for the City is WIS 33 which becomes

Figure 2.2 Regional Context Map
Source: Google Maps



Main Street through central Reedsburg. The Baraboo River cuts through the west side of the City and is the headquarters of the “400” State Trail.

The Village of La Valle is located approximately eight miles northwest of Reedsburg and 22 miles west of Wisconsin Dells. The area is served by WIS 33 and WIS 58, which are also the two locations where most of its commercial development is located. The Baraboo River flows directly through the west side of the Village and the “400” trail continues through the Village.

The remaining villages and cities within the BRCP Phase II planning area are primarily located within Juneau County. Juneau County is located in west central Wisconsin and in 2018 had a population of 27,007 according to Esri Business Analyst Online. Juneau County’s population is expected to grow by 9.1% to 29,465 in 2040 (WI DOA). Similar to Sauk County, natural resources abound in Juneau County; there are four major multi-use trails within the County, over 200 miles of snowmobile trails, 400 miles of ATV trails, a county Forest, one State Park and a 42,600 acre Wildlife Refuge.

These remaining municipalities are located at the midpoint of road travel between Chicago, Illinois and the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul), Minnesota. This connection has provided significant economic benefit in the past due to rail lines and it continues to be recognized as playing a role in area economics and tourism as leisure travelers/business commuters seek to help break up the over six hour drive between the two areas.

The Village of Wonewoc is located approximately eight miles northwest of La Valle and 28 miles east of Wisconsin Dells. WIS 33 runs through Wonewoc’s downtown and also provides the most direct access to I-90/94. The Baraboo River runs on the west side of the Village near the “400” State Trail.

The Village of Union Center is located approximately four miles northwest of Wonewoc and 33 miles west of Wisconsin Dells. Within Union Center the “400” and Hillsboro State Trails converge on the south side of the Village. Highways 33, 80 and 82 all pass through the Village and connect it to Elroy, Hillsboro and Wonewoc. The Baraboo River winds along the far west side of the Village.

The City of Elroy is approximately four miles north of Union Center and 30 miles northwest of Wisconsin Dells. Elroy is approximately 13 miles from I-90/94. The Baraboo River runs on the west side of the City, bisects the City, then runs on the west side of the City. Elroy is also the convergence of three bicycle trails: the “400”, Elroy-Sparta and Omaha Trails.

The City of Hillsboro is located approximately five miles southwest of Union Center and is on the border of Vernon County. STH 82 runs from Union Center to Hillsboro and parallels the Hillsboro State Trail (bike trail). The west branch of the Baraboo River begins on the southeast side of the City from Field Veterans Memorial Lake. The dam between the Lake and the Baraboo River is the only dam still remaining on the Baraboo River (it is located on the West Branch).

Overall the region is known for tourism and recreational amenities due to the Wisconsin Dells and Devil’s Lake State Park. The Wisconsin Dells is known as the Waterpark Capital of the World showcasing numerous theme parks and entertainment centers. The area also provides nature trails and camping within Mirror Lake State Park and the nearby Devil’s Lake State Park. In 2017 it is estimated that Devil’s Lake State Park had 3 million annual visitors, this is similar to some of the most visited national parks. Devil’s Lake offers bluffs overlooking a 360 acre Lake with picnic area, swimming beaches, 29 miles of hiking trails, camping, rock climbing, scuba diving, bicycling, boating, canoeing/kayaking, picnicking, fishing, hunting, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and ice fishing. Sauk County is also home to nearly 50 miles of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail, which travels through some of the state’s most beautiful natural areas. The proximity of the Baraboo River Corridor to this 1,200 mile trail only enhances the outdoor recreational value of the area.

2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Population

The greatest projected population increase in the BRCP Phase II study area is Reedsburg. The City is projected to grow from 9,200 residents in 2010 to 12,800 residents in 2040, an increase of 39%. This is much higher than the increase expected in the State overall during the same time period (14%). Sauk County (26%), Juneau County

ABOUT THE CORRIDOR

(11%) and Hillsboro (16%) are also projected to have population increases between 2010 and 2040. All remaining municipalities are expected to have population decreases between 2010 and 2040: Rock Springs (-32%), La Valle (-6%), Wonewoc (-6%), Union Center (-13%) and Elroy (-19%). The loss of population projected for these smaller, more rural communities is a national trend often due to larger communities offering more academic and economic opportunity, but it is based on historical trends. Changes in these communities have the potential to reverse those trends.

Age Composition

Between 20-35% of residents in each community are less than 25 years old. The percentage of those age 65 and older in each community is even lower; between 10-20%. The lowest median age in the study area is 35.7 (Reedsburg) and the highest median age in the study area is 49 (Union Center). For comparison, the median age in Wisconsin is 39.1. As Baby Boomers age, we expect these numbers to continue to rise.

By 2040 the WI DOA projects that 24% of the population in Sauk County and 31% of the population in Juneau County will be age 65 and older. Consideration for the aging population should be taken into account when planning for passive and active recreation opportunities within the corridor by ensuring ADA compliance as often as possible.

2.3 EXISTING PLAN SUMMARY

These are plans which have already been produced by local governments, citizen groups and non-profits that discuss the Baraboo River Corridor. Plan content relevant to the BRCP is summarized here.

City of Hillsboro

Comprehensive Plan (2009) and Amendment (2016)

One of the objectives in the plan is to improve public access to the City's surface water resources; including upgrades to the City's boat launch area and creation of a public beach. A related action item is to work with the County on their Park and Recreation Plan to provide recommendations for upgrading the City's boat launch, and creation of a public beach at Hillsboro Lake. Hillsboro Lake feeds into the Baraboo River. Another objective in the plan is to preserve and protect environmental corridors, water resources, wetlands, ground water recharge areas, woodlands, and

Figure 2.3 Combined Age Composition
Source: 2012-2016 ACS Estimates

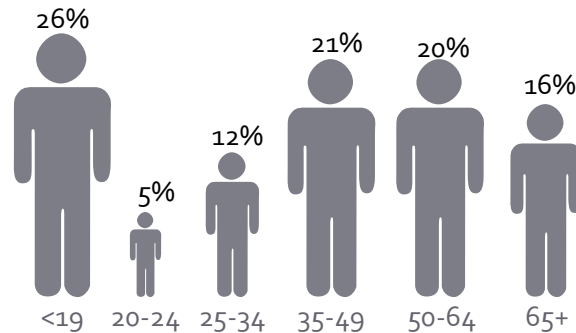


Figure 2.2 Population History & Projections

Source: US Census and WI Department of Administration

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2010-2040
Rock Springs	362	310	305	300	285	270	245	-32%
La Valle	367	360	365	370	370	360	345	-6%
Wonewoc	816	815	815	820	820	800	770	-6%
Union Center	200	195	195	195	195	185	175	-13%
Hillsboro	1,417	1,430	1,495	1,560	1,620	1,650	1,650	16%
Elroy	1,442	1,405	1,375	1,355	1,320	1,255	1,175	-19%
Reedsburg	9,200	9,650	10,500	11,330	12,080	12,530	12,800	39%
Juneau County	26,664	27,305	28,130	29,080	29,790	29,805	29,465	11%
Sauk County	61,976	63,750	68,075	72,175	75,660	77,265	77,815	26%
State of Wisconsin	5,686,986	5,783,015	6,005,080	6,203,850	6,375,910	6,476,270	6,491,635	14%

other environmentally sensitive areas.

Park and Trail Improvements (2013)

The City's plan includes the following recommendations related to the Baraboo River Corridor:

- Obtain easements to follow the abandoned rail line along the West Branch of the Baraboo River and pass through the south side of the Cenex Co-op property.
- Provide a bridge across the West Branch of the Baraboo River. Remnants of an existing railroad bridge currently remain in the location for the proposed bicycle bridge crossing, which should reduce the cost of construction.

Human Use of Space Senior Capstone Project (2011)

The study investigates how human use of space can inform the design of rural, small-town redevelopment projects and open space design and linkage. The goals of the project are to enhance tourism and recreation, improve the downtown business district and link City open space and recreation with the downtown business district. The project identifies the lack of recreational use of the west branch of the Baraboo River as a missed opportunity. The project recommends a campground along the south side of the lake on a property that is owned by a defunct lake association, due to its proximity to Wildcat Mountain State Park. Due to topography and access it is recommended the camp sites be limited to walk-in or bicycle access via the proposed bike trail system around the lake or by paddle access from the proposed put-in site near the existing lake boat launch. The project suggests clearing downed trees on the Baraboo River and providing facilities to accommodate paddlers. The suggested location for access to the river is the park open space adjoining the dam at Hammer and Klopfeisch Park. The design includes gravel parking and a nearby performance amphitheater set into the grade along the river to provide an outdoor performance stage. The plan also suggests setting up a shuttle system between this point and Wonewoc to return people and their equipment. Another recommendation is to add two culverts through the existing dike for water to flow through the park site where it would help to filter out pollutants and serve as an eye-catching feature.



Hammer and Klopfeisch Park (Hillsboro)

City of Elroy Comprehensive Plan (2009)

One of the goals included in the plan is to protect environmentally sensitive areas, including the Baraboo River riverfront and forested lands. A policy that addresses this is to work with the Towns of Plymouth and Wonewoc, the County, the State, and individual landowners to maintain current water quality standards. Another related goal within the plan is to promote a quiet and peaceful community with open spaces and scenic landscape. Part of what makes Elroy so unique is its opportunity for recreation due to its trails (400, Elroy-Sparta and Omaha trails all converge in Elroy). The trails have been in place for a number of years and the City has made several improvements to them. The question Elroy must continually address is how can it maximize trail usage and boost tourism within the City.

Village of Union Center

No existing Plans.

Village of Wonewoc Comprehensive Plan (2004)

- Opportunity for promoting tourism including development of the river for recreational uses
- Develop a Baraboo River canoe landing with a small

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- park
- Protect local water quality and wetland habitat through the use of wellhead protection ordinances and zoning
- Create a park that has the appropriate amenities for paddlers and outfitters

Village of La Valle Comprehensive Plan (2004)

The plan contains several goals and objectives related to the Baraboo River Corridor:

- Encourage open access to the Baraboo River
- Identify increased areas for access to the Baraboo River and sign appropriately
- Provide opportunities for safe access and activity along the Baraboo River (goal)
- Develop multi-use trail and canoe launch areas along the Baraboo River
- Encourage plentiful access to areas along riverway
- Establish guidelines for development locating near the Baraboo River corridor so that the use does not interfere with river access and viewsheds
- Identify environmental standards, and best practice recommendations for new businesses locating in the Village, especially along the Baraboo River corridor
- Monitor the Baraboo River area and inform DNR of instances where enforcement actions should be investigated
- Promote existing BMPs along Baraboo River to preserve riverbanks and enhance viewsheds along the resource
- Restrict new development in areas along natural corridors such as the Baraboo River

City of Reedsburg Comprehensive Plan (2012)

The plan contains several goals and objectives related to the Baraboo River Corridor:

- Enhance downtown access and visibility to the Baraboo River
- Implement the Floodplain Transformation Plan recommendations along the Baraboo River

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2017)

The plan contains several goals and objectives related to the Baraboo River Corridor:

- Clear log jams and create more accessibility to Baraboo River

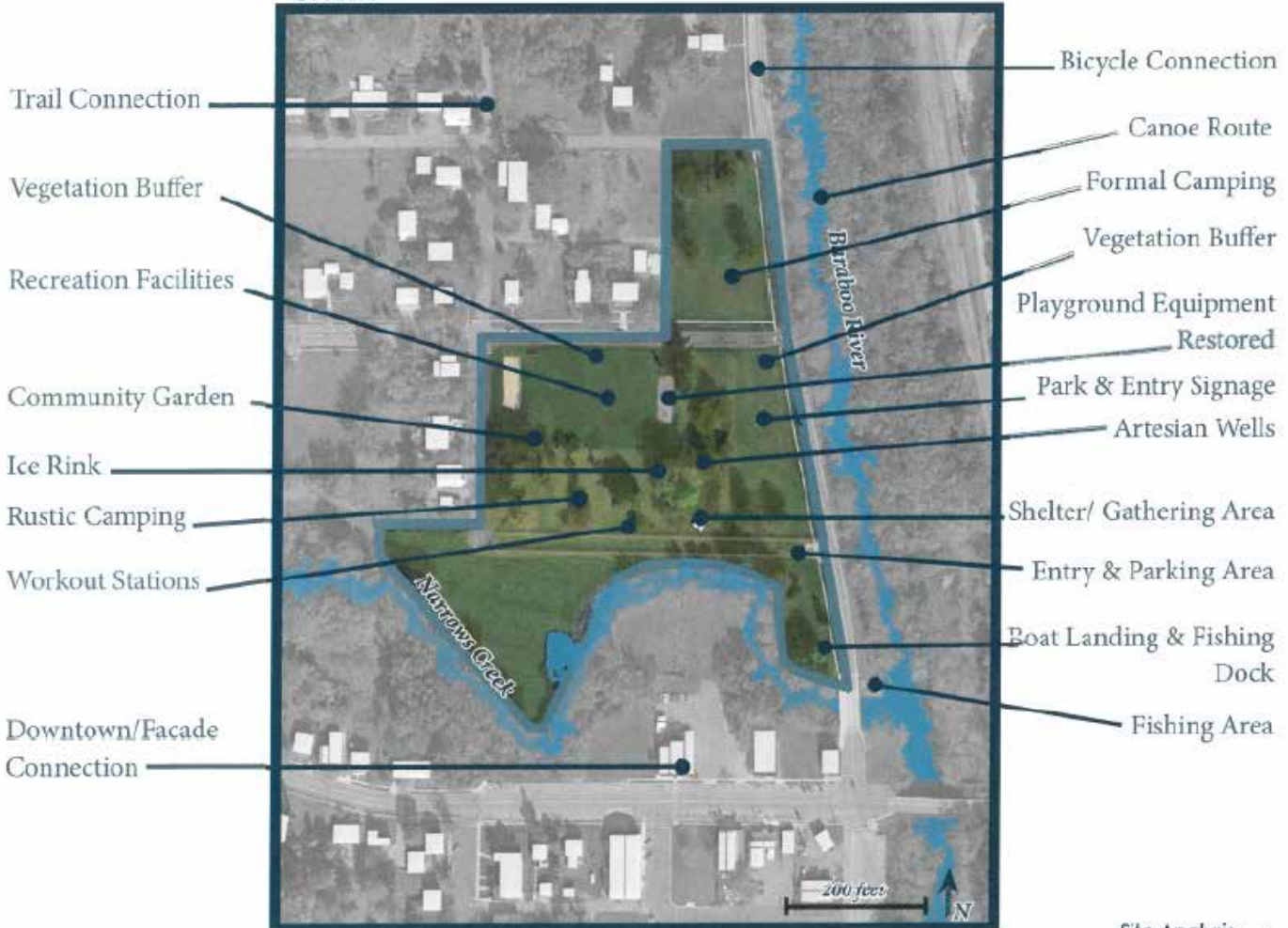
- Provide support facilities for 400 trail users
- Develop a canoe launch and river walk along the bank of the river
- Identify business opportunities in area for canoe rental, restaurants, and other water recreation oriented enterprises

Floodplain Transformation Plan (2011)

The plan was created after the 2008 flooding and includes 20 individual city lots that were all flooded. The City received a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant to purchase and raze these structures and retain ownership of the properties. The main reuse of these lots is for recreational opportunities. Twelve of the lots are on Granite Ave, one on N. Webb Ave., one on Clark St., and the remainder on W. Second St. The recreational opportunities would include a campground, relocated boat launch, public restrooms/showers, a picnic area/pavilion, fishing dock, equipment rentals, walkway, picnic tables, grills and a community bonfire pit. These would be located on Granite Ave. As of today there is a boat launch and open space in this area. The plan also discusses creating a Riverwalk along the Baraboo now that the City



Site...



Jodi Kay Busser Park Concept (Rock Springs)

Site Analysis 43

owns much of the land along the river south of Main St. The plan also envisions educational opportunities (koi ponds, deer and butterfly parks, bat houses, educational walkway) along Granite Ave. as much of the land to the west of the street is considered wetlands. Some objectives from the plan include:

- Identify funding sources for recreational items such as the boat launch, memorial, campground, fishing dock and picnic areas
- Conduct river clean-up of overgrown or dead trees and vegetation
- Relocate canoe/kayak launch to the west side of the

Baraboo River along Granite Ave.

- Publicize and encourage use of the area through surveys and social media
- Provide public restrooms
- Implementation for the Riverwalk includes:
 - Paint additional crosswalks on S. Webb Ave. to connect with Smith Conservancy and W. Main St. to connect with the Roger Popple Trail.
 - Adding off-premise signs to better advertise the trail system.

Retail Market Analysis (2006)

The plan identifies a market area that is impacted by

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Baraboo/West Baraboo, Wisconsin Dells/Lake Delton, Mauston and Richland Center. The Dells-area has the largest impact on Reedsburg. According to the report, the most underserved sector in Reedsburg is restaurants. Other leakages include special food services (e.g. caterers), gas stations and auto parts stores. Consumers seem to come from outside of Reedsburg's market area for drinking places, grocery stores and health and personal care stores. One recommendation from the plan is to enhance Downtown access and visibility of the Baraboo River. The river could become a magnet for downtown.

Village of Rock Springs Outdoor Recreation Plan (2010)

The plan contains several goals and objectives related to the Baraboo River Corridor:

- Develop the "Point" (area where the Baraboo River and Narrows Creek combine) to allow for easier fishing access
- Develop the corner property on Southeast side of Hwy 136 Narrows Creek Bridge, and the Northwest side of Hwy 136 Baraboo River Bridge. Make the area easier for fishing
- Develop a combination parking area and boat ramp on Northwest side of Hwy 136 Narrows Creek Bridge
- Improve the area around the Floating Canoe Dock
- Install signs to help guide visitors along the river
- Improve the access and system of trails within the Village, Weidman Park, and adjacent to the Village

Water Access Concept (year unknown)

The concept is for an area northwest of the intersection of W Broadway Street and County Road DD, Jodie Kay Busser Park. The site includes a recreation area, camping area, and green space and water access along Narrows Creek near where it feeds into the Baraboo River.

Juneau County Comprehensive Plan (2009)

The Plan contains several objectives that pertain to the Baraboo River Corridor as a recreation, open space and environmental resource:

- Protect floodplain, steep slope and bluff areas throughout the county to mitigate hazard potential and

emphasize their value to the community as potential focal points of natural beauty and recreation.

- Reduce contamination of surface waters in Juneau County.

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2017)

The Juneau County CORP references the Wisconsin Land Legacy Report (2006-2056) which recommends protection of Legacy Areas using federal, state and local funding sources as well as possibly creating new incentives for land owners to protect these areas. The Baraboo River is noted as a large Legacy Area with moderate protection initiated, moderate protection remaining and it received four out of five possible stars for importance in terms of Conservation Significance and Recreation Potential. The CORP also included results from a community survey which indicated boating, canoeing and kayaking are two of the top recreational activities that residents participate in.

The Juneau County CORP includes recommendations for municipalities within Juneau County. The following recommendations related to the Baraboo River Corridor Plan were included:

City of Elroy:

- Floodplain study – because of the proximity of City Park to the Baraboo River, a portion of the Park is in the floodplain. To better identify what types of projects could be undertaken at the Park we would want to complete a floodplain study along the West side of the Park.
- Upgrade canoe launch – the City installed a simple canoe launch at the City Park about 15 years ago, but it has deteriorated over the years. Upgrade this facility to better accommodate canoes and kayaks in the Baraboo River.
- Clearing of the Baraboo River – Approximately 2 miles of the Baraboo River north of the Park have been cleared of debris to accommodate a kayak launch. Clear the remaining 5 miles of the river so that it connects to a point further downstream (Union Center at Spring Valley Golf Club) that can accommodate canoes/kayaks.
- Create a walking trail around City Park connecting 400 State Trail to campsites, swimming pool and Baraboo River.

Juneau County is currently finalizing a 2019 Bicycle and

Pedestrian Plan and a Juneau County Bicycle Map showing road and mountain bike loops.

Sauk County Comprehensive Plan (2009)

The Plan references the City of Baraboo's Riverfront Redevelopment Area Plan from 2006 and its overarching goal of making the area more accessible to the public and increasing economic opportunities.

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2014)

Sauk County has identified the following needs for the Baraboo River:

- Develop a comprehensive Recreation and Community use plan.
- Improve the Douglas Park canoe landing.
- Develop Golf Course Road canoe landing.
- Provide leadership to coordinate planning and recreational management.
- Research river planning grant program.
- Pursue WDNR water trail funding for management and improvement of the recreational resource.
- Encourage the increased recreational use of the Baraboo and Wisconsin Rivers.

Other Plans

Phase II: A Brief History of the Dams of the Baraboo River (2004)

This study completed by the Citizens for Waterfront Revitalization profiles the history of each of the dams along the Baraboo River.

Running Free: The Baraboo River Restoration Story (2009)

This study, completed by the Sand County Foundation, discusses the history of the river, beginning with the Native Americans and fur traders and discusses each of the eight dams along the river. During the span of four years, four dams were removed along the river to return it to its natural state. The study discusses the river's potential as an improved location for fishing, increased opportunities for recreational use and the potential for riverfront development along the river after dam removal.

Driftless Area Trout & Smallmouth Bass Stream Master Plan Project (2013)

Chapter 7 of the report authored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources discusses the topics of

land use, watersheds, and habitat in the region as they relate to different types of fish and their probability of occurrence in different areas throughout the Baraboo River Region.

Paddle the Baraboo - Guide and Maps (2017)

Sauk County and UW Extension created a paddling map which includes access and parking information for stretches of the river from Union Center to the Wisconsin River. The map includes trip times, river features and difficulty levels.

Floods of June 2008 in Southern Wisconsin (2008)

This report by the US Geological Survey includes a study to document the conditions that led to the flooding and shows flood profiles and peak-stage maps for nine communities in southern Wisconsin, including Reedsburg and Rock Springs. Conditions leading to flooding were heavy rainfall on saturated soils when stream flows were already high.

Baraboo River Corridor Branding & Marketing Study (2018)

This study was completed for the Friends of the Baraboo River by MSA Professional Services and it's purpose was to establish a brand identity, marketing strategy and metrics to track the establishment of the Baraboo River Corridor as a recreation tourism destination. Specific recommendations included:

- Developing a brand identity - name, tagline and logo (see study for suggestions).
- The millions of people already coming to the area for outdoor recreation are the target market/marketing audience.
- Message priorities include promoting the best sites and trail segments (while working to close the gaps, highlighting and expanding accessibility features, and highlighting the driftless area).
- Marketing methods should include social media, Strive On, signage and Devil's Lake State Park Cross-Promotion.

3

*Inventory &
Analysis*

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The following sections provide an inventory and analysis of natural, cultural, infrastructure and recreation amenities of the Baraboo River, by community. The inventory included paddling sections of the River as feasible, with the assistance of Beyond Boundaries Canoe, Kayak and Bike shop out of Wonewoc. Sections between Elroy and Hillsboro and Reedsburg were paddled during July and August 2018. The sections from Reedsburg to the western edge of North Freedom were inventoried from roadways and publicly-owned properties during October 2018.

3.1 OVERALL CORRIDOR

Natural Resources

Watershed

The Baraboo River Region drains to the Wisconsin River, the largest river in Wisconsin. There are five main watersheds (Hydrological Unit Code 10) in the region, and four of these drain to the Baraboo River before it enters the Wisconsin River. The BRCP Phase II planning area includes three of these watersheds: Headwaters of the Baraboo River, Little Baraboo River, and Narrows Creek watersheds.

According to Sauk County, land use within the entire Baraboo River Watershed (approximately 655 square miles) is comprised of cropland (42%), pasture (16%), forest (31%) and urban, feedlots, water, or other (11%). The entire River is approximately 115 miles long (through Kendall). The main

branch of the Baraboo River from Elroy to the western edge of North Freedom is approximately 65 miles long. The West Branch from Hillsboro to Union Center is approximately eight miles long.

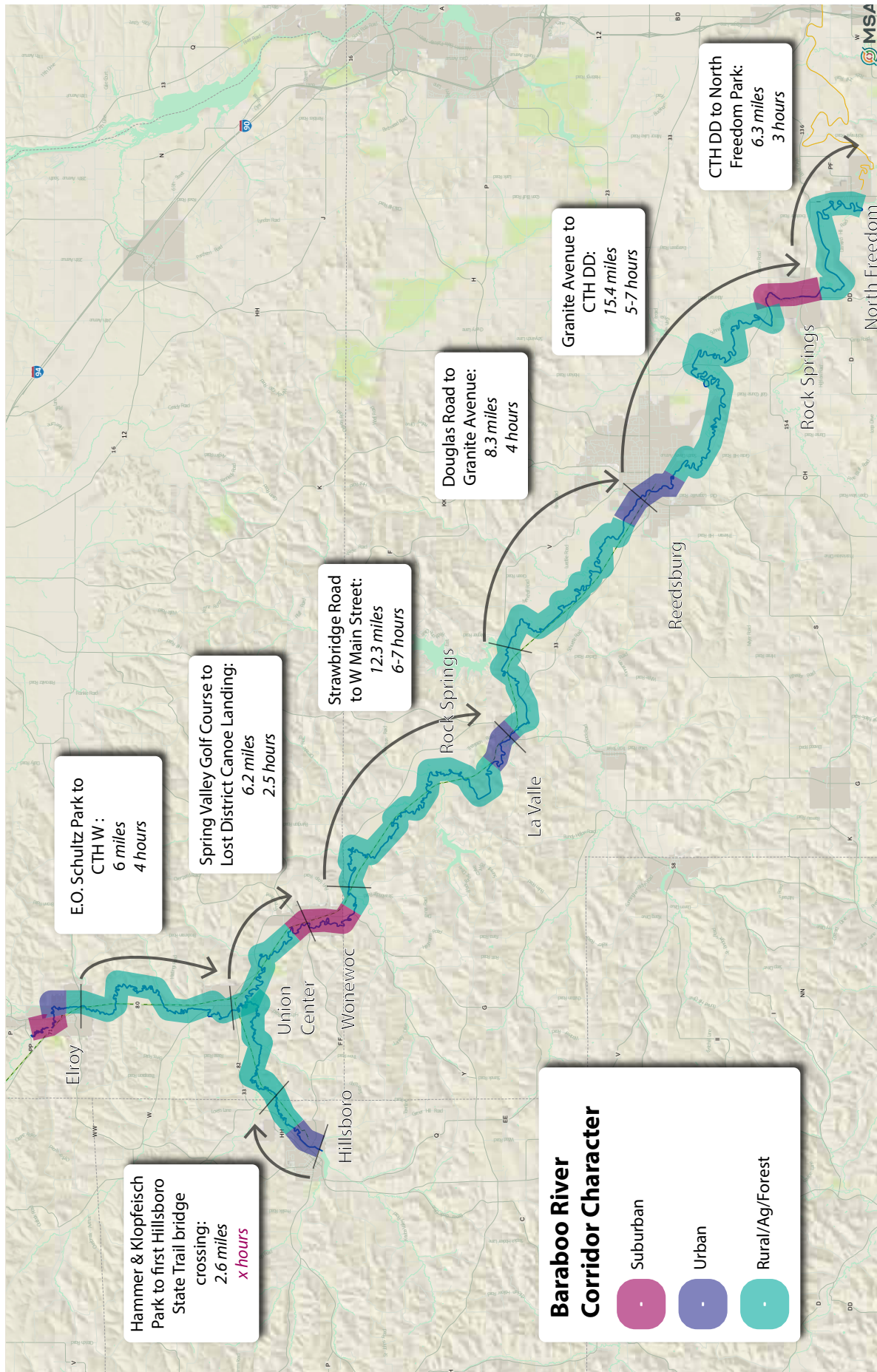
Corridor Character

Each section of the River is unique and offers a different experience to potential users. The River's headwaters are northwest of Kendall and northwest of Hillsboro (West Branch of the Baraboo River), though much of these initial stretches consists of drainage ways that are not useful for recreation. In Hillsboro, the River passes along commercial and residential areas first and then follows WIS 82 to the edge of the City. The River is quite narrow in many locations. Due to the River's proximity to WIS 82, the setting can feel urban at times, though the banks are covered in native grasses and some flowers. There are also two sections of the River within Hillsboro that offer Class I rapids. Between Hillsboro and Union Center the corridor is a combination of agricultural and forested lands.

At the Main Branch of the Baraboo in Elroy, the River starts out in a suburban area, bisects the City in an industrial area and continues primarily in a rural setting along the eastern edge of the City. Between Elroy and Union Center the setting is primarily rural/agricultural with several pine tree covered, scenic bluffs just outside of Elroy. This is a narrow part of the River with little to no erosion on the shoreline banks.



Figure 3.1 Baraboo River Corridor Character and Trip Lengths



INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The main and the West Branch of the Baraboo River converge in Union Center. Within Union Center, the River's setting is primarily rural. Between Union Center and Wonewoc the character of the corridor is a mixture of forested and rural/agricultural lands. Just before entering Wonewoc, the River flows by the scenic Third Castle Rock Bluff. In Wonewoc, the River passes by primarily residential and agricultural properties. The section of River between Wonewoc and La Valle is narrow and primarily forested with some rural/agricultural lands. Before entering La Valle, there are several vertical scenic bluffs.

In La Valle, the River passes by industrial and commercial sites before entering a heavily forested section. The section between La Valle and Reedsburg is where the river begins to widen and there are sand bars as well as lot of erosion on banks. This section contains a mixture of forest and agricultural lands.

In Reedsburg, the River bisects a small portion of the City which is primarily a mix of industrial, commercial and greenspace. Between Reedsburg and Rock Springs the corridor of the character is again a combination of forest and rural/agricultural lands. At the north end of Rock Springs the River passes through Ableman's Gorge State Natural Area/Van Hise Rock. Within Rock Springs, the River passes

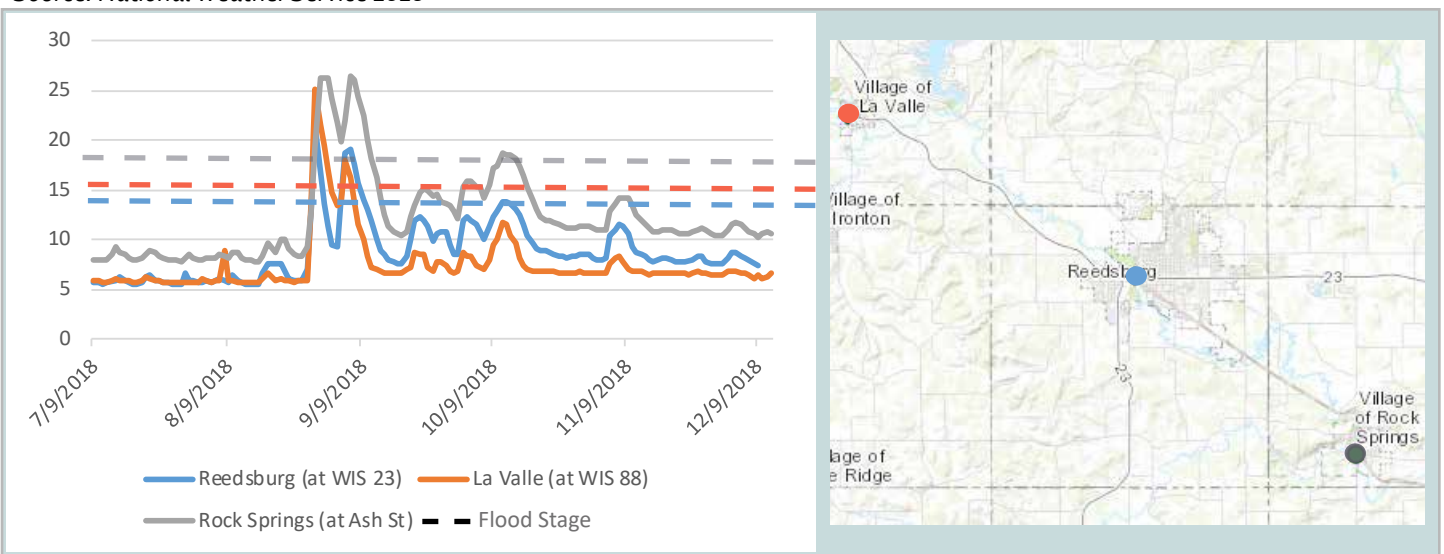
primarily through open space, with some commercial and residential uses. Between Rock Springs and North Freedom the River passes through a combination of rural/agricultural and forested lands and is an even wider section of the river.

Surface Water Conditions

The Baraboo River is considered the longest free-flowing, restored River in the country. From the mid 1990's to 2001, all except one dam (in Hillsboro, on the West Branch) were removed from the Baraboo River. These dam removals have served as a catalyst to making the River a recreation destination. The River is now open for paddling and fish are now able to travel up the River to spawn. According to Sauk County, the Baraboo River falls approximately 150-feet in elevation from its headwaters to the confluence with the Wisconsin River, with about one-third of that drop within the City of Baraboo. Although the river is largely free of dams, log jams (or deadfalls) are another barrier to the Baraboo River becoming a recreation destination. Currently there is only semi-regular clearing being done by Beyond Boundaries (rental shop in Wonewoc) for sections of the river that they outfit. Regular clearing is important because deadfalls happen frequently and logs constantly move with the level of the river and new logs are exposed with low river levels.

Just as log locations change, river levels vary from year to

Figure 3.2 River Depth for La Valle, Reedsburg and Rock Springs
Source: National Weather Service 2018



year and even day to day. Typically one would expect river levels to be between 5 feet and 10 feet deep, dependent upon location as well. Figure 3.2 shows river depth as tracked by the National Weather Service within La Valle, Reedsburg and Rock Springs. The figure shows low river depths preceding the end of August.

In a two week span from August 27 through September 5, the southwest region of Wisconsin received more than 20 inches of rain, more than it usually gets in six months. The rain was relentless, with another round of rain and flooding that occurred early October 2018. The flooding brought washed out roads, displaced residents and businesses, created more scouring of the river banks, and cause more deadfalls across the river as blockages. These events were catastrophic to the corridor. Shortly after the initial round of flooding Governor Scott Walker declared a statewide emergency, mobilizing the National Guard to assist flood victims. The road to recovery will be long, and as this plan is being written, many of the communities have applied for FEMA funds to make repairs to what was damaged and several are looking into Hazard Mitigation FEMA funding.

Water Quality

The water quality of the Baraboo is widely known to be poor due to nonpoint source pollution and sediment levels. The Baraboo River is listed as a high priority in the Wisconsin DNR's 2018 impaired waters list due to Total Phosphorus levels. However, during the physical inventory of the river, aquatic plant life and sand bars were visible. At low river elevations, the river bed and wildlife/fish could be seen in the river while kayaking. The water quality near Elroy to Union Center were of higher quality due to lower erosion of the river banks and more river bottom vegetation.

Recreational Resources

Biking

The area is served by four connected trails: Hillsboro State Trail, the "400" State Trail, Elroy-Sparta State Trail and the Juneau County-owned Omaha Trail." Trail passes are required for bicycling on the State-owned trails. These trails are given more discussion within the following sections.

Fishing

Trout streams are primarily located higher in the watershed, in colder waters. The warmwater section of the Baraboo

River is the region's premier smallmouth bass river. Following the removal of the last dam along the Baraboo in 2001, lake sturgeon, catfish, walleye, sauger, smallmouth bass, freshwater drum and other fish now can move to the upper reaches of the Baraboo River for spring spawning. Since the Baraboo is a tributary of the Wisconsin River, many fish that reside in the Wisconsin now travel up the Baraboo, including sturgeon, which were historically found throughout the upper portions of the Baraboo river. Since the removal of the dams, WI DNR has taken additional efforts to restore sturgeon to the Baraboo River. In 2010, the WI DNR released 6,100 sturgeon fingerlings into the Baraboo River near Circus World Museum in Baraboo. In 2012 nearly 500 large fingerlings were stocked in the River. Since then, the WI DNR's stocking efforts have continued in hopes of restoring the River's sturgeon population.

Because the river is narrow in most locations, most fishing is done from shore or from a small boat or canoe. The two most abundant species in the Baraboo River are catfish and smallmouth bass.

Birding

The Baraboo Range, which surround Baraboo and North Freedom, runs through Rock Springs. The Baraboo Range is known as a nesting area for 105 bird species with 220 species recorded including warblers, barred owls and four species of woodpecker. The Baraboo River should be promoted more as a birding destination. It is common for paddlers along the Baraboo River to see wood ducks, shorebirds, kingfishers, hawks, owls, green and blue herons, and occasionally white egrets. Additionally, bald eagles can be seen up and downstream from Reedsburg, La Valle and Union Center. Sandhill cranes also nest in wetland areas directly off the Baraboo River (in Wonewoc), which connects to the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo and the Necedah Wildlife Refuge.

Camping

There are six officially designated campgrounds within the BRCP Phase II planning area. Two are located in Elroy at E.O. Schultz Park (eight RV sites and 14 tent sites) and Allen Thompson Memorial Park (13 tent sites). Another is at the Granite Avenue boat landing in Reedsburg (3 tent sites). A third is a privately-owned campground/resort between Wonewoc and La Valle that offers over 100 RV and tent camp

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

sites and eight cabins. Wonewoc also has two free/low-fee camping areas. One is located off of Baker's Field/400 Trail and one is at Legion Park (two with electrical hookups).

Golfing

There are two golf courses within the Phase II section of the BRC, one in Union Center and another in Reedsburg (discussed in the following subsections). Nearby, within the Phase I section of the BRC, there are also two golf courses in Baraboo: Fairfield Hills and the Baraboo Country Club. Fairfield Hills is an 18-hole golf course that also includes a 12-hole option for those who don't have time for a full 18-holes. The Baraboo Country Club is an 18-hole golf course that is open to the public. The facility also includes a full-service bar and restaurant.

ATV-ing

Juneau County currently has one designated ATV trail, a two-mile stretch through the woods in the Town of Clearfield. Most paved areas in the county are open for ATV use, with the exception of areas that experience more traffic. Within Sauk County, most areas open to ATVs are located in the northern part of the county. However, more and more routes are opening to the south: recently, both the Town and City of Reedsburg have opened additional routes for ATVs.

Snowmobiling

Juneau County has over 420 miles of snowmobile trails. These trails are maintained by seven clubs within the county. Sauk County has around 211 miles of snowmobile trails which loop through just about every village and city within the county, with many rest stops along the way.

Hiking

There is an abundance of hiking trails within Sauk and Juneau Counties. Below is a partial list of some of the parks that have hiking trails:

- White Mound County Park
- Sauk County Community Forest
- Devils Lake State Park
- Mirror Lake State Park
- Natural Bridge State Park
- Popple Nature Area
- Smith Conservancy
- 400 State Trail

- Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
- Buckhorn State Park
- Ableman's Gorge
- Mill Bluff State Park

Culture/History

For those who prefer cultural/historical recreation opportunities, there are also numerous options within the corridor:

- Historical Society Museums in Reedsburg, Elroy, Hillsboro, Sauk County
- Pioneer Village in Reedsburg
- Many other significant historical sites noted within the following subsections

3.2 HILLSBORO

Natural Resources

The Baraboo River runs from the Hillsboro Dam to Union Center and is just under eight miles long. This section is not frequently paddled. The stretch from Hammer & Klopfeisch Park to the first Hillsboro State Trail bridge is 2.6 miles and takes approximately **x hours** to paddle. The Hillsboro section of the Baraboo River is quite narrow compared to other portions of River within the corridor. The banks of the River immediately following the Hillsboro Dam are covered in native plants and display very few signs of erosion. Shortly after the dam there are several Class I rapids, there is an additional Class I rapid between mile six and seven.



Figure 3.3 Hillsboro Inventory & Analysis



Hillsboro
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

0 0.1 0.2 Miles

📍 Erosion
🌿 Habitat
📅 Log Jam
🚗 Possible Access Point
🚚 Boat Access, Carry-In
🚤 Boat Access, Ramp
🌊 Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2
🌿 State Trail
🚚 Snowmobile Trail*
📅 Unique Feature
📅 Parking Lot

MSA

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

There is a fork in the River at approximately 6.5 miles and the river converges again around six miles. An interactive map with river mile notations can be found here: <http://arcg.is/10v0Tj>

Several roads also cross the Baraboo in this section:

- E Mill St at 7.4 miles
- CTH FF/ E Madison Ave at 7.2 miles
- Smith Road at 2.2 miles

Throughout this section of the River there are numerous downed trees and areas for potential habitat.

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

Round Barns. The Hillsboro area has three round barns. These round bars were built during the late 1800s or early 1900s and were primarily used for dairy farming. Round barns were popular during this time period because they utilized space efficiently and accommodated the newest dairy farming technologies of the time. Vernon County has the highest concentration of round barns in the country.

African American Settlers. Wisconsin's largest rural African American Settlement in the 19th century was in the Hillsboro area, or Cheyenne Valley. Nearly 150 African Americans came to farm after the State's defiance of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act and demise of Slavery after the Civil War. Today there is a state historic marker at the intersection of Elm Avenue and STH 80 in the southwestern part of Hillsboro, which identifies the historical African American influence in the Hillsboro area.

Festivals & Community Events

Cesky Den is an annual event held in June that celebrates the area's Czechoslovakia heritage. The event is held at Firemen's Park and offers Czech crafts, games, music, dancing and food.

Fireman's Labor Day Fair is a four day festival held over Labor Day weekend. The event is the largest festival in Hillsboro and features a parade, carnival, junior fair, entertainment and food.

Hillsboro Charity Tractor Pull is a two day event in August at Hillsboro Firemen's Memorial Park that features two tracks and tractor pulls all day.

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

No freight and passenger rail services are provided within Hillsboro. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a stations in the Cities of Tomah (30 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (38 miles).

Trails

The Hillsboro State Trail is a 4-mile rail to trail project that runs from Hillsboro to the "400" State Trail in Union Center. The Hillsboro State Trail is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and operated jointly by Juneau County, Vernon County and the City of Hillsboro. The trail is graded and surfaced with packed limestone.

The Hillsboro Trail crosses the Baraboo River three times at approximately 2.9, 4.2, and 4.8 miles.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

The Northeastern Spur Trailhead is a trailhead for the Hillsboro State Trail, and is located just south of the former Joshua Sanford Field Airport along Air Rail Avenue. The site includes paved parking, restroom facilities, an information kiosk and some directional signage.

There are no existing formal canoe/kayak launches on this section of the Baraboo River. There is a canoe/kayak launch on Field Veterans Memorial Lake, west of the dam.



Public Parks Adjacent to River

Field Veteran's Memorial Park is located on the northwest side of the 43-acre Field Veterans Memorial Lake, along Water Avenue. Park amenities include several pavilions, a gazebo, handicap-accessible pier and restroom facilities. There is a boat launch adjacent to the park for recreational boating and fishing in Field Veteran's Memorial Lake.

Hammer & Klopfeisch Park is located on the northeast side of Field Veteran's Memorial Lake, along E. Mills Street (adjacent to the Hillsboro Dam). The park is primarily open space with a pavilion and fire pit surrounded by a paved seating area.

Privately Owned Parks

Firemen's Memorial Park is located west of Hillsboro, along WIS 33/82. It is owned by a nonprofit organization. The primary uses of the park are for organized league softball and group picnics. The park offers a picnic shelter, covered open-sided shelter, restrooms and a softball field with bleachers.

Additional Parks

There are additional parks throughout the community that could further connect a web of recreational opportunities:

- **Albert Field Memorial Park**
- **Settler's Park**
- **City Pool and Splashpad**

3.3 ELROY

Natural Resources

The section of the Baraboo River that runs from the northern boundary of the City of Elroy to the northern boundary of Union Center is approximately 10 miles long. The stretch from E.O. Schultz Park to CTH D is approximately 6 miles long and takes about four hours to paddle. This stretch features many downed logs and very few instances of erosion. This section of river is also narrow and provides a more northwoods feel as there are more pine trees and vegetation you would find further north in Wisconsin. This section has colder water temperature which is good for fish habitat and features many other types of wildlife (birds, turtles, deer, spiders, etc.)

Kimballs Bluff is located between 96.8 and 98.8 miles. The section also features additional unnamed smaller bluffs and rock outcroppings.

Several roads also cross the Baraboo:

- CTH PP at the northern-just outside the northern boundary of the City at 104.6 miles
- STH 80 at 103.0 miles
- 2nd Main St at 102.9 miles
- Franklin St at 102.0 miles
- STH 80 at 101.5, 100.3 and 96.8 miles
- Wagner Rd at 97.5 miles
- CTH W at 95.0 miles

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

There are six buildings on the Architectural History Inventory in the City of Elroy:

- **The Chicago & Northwestern Depot** - now the visitor center on the Elroy-Sparta bike trail
- **Old Log School** - located at the Fairgrounds
- **Library**
- **Elroy Municipal Utility Building**
- **Elroy Hotel**
- **Museum on Main** - historical displays on the Elroy area

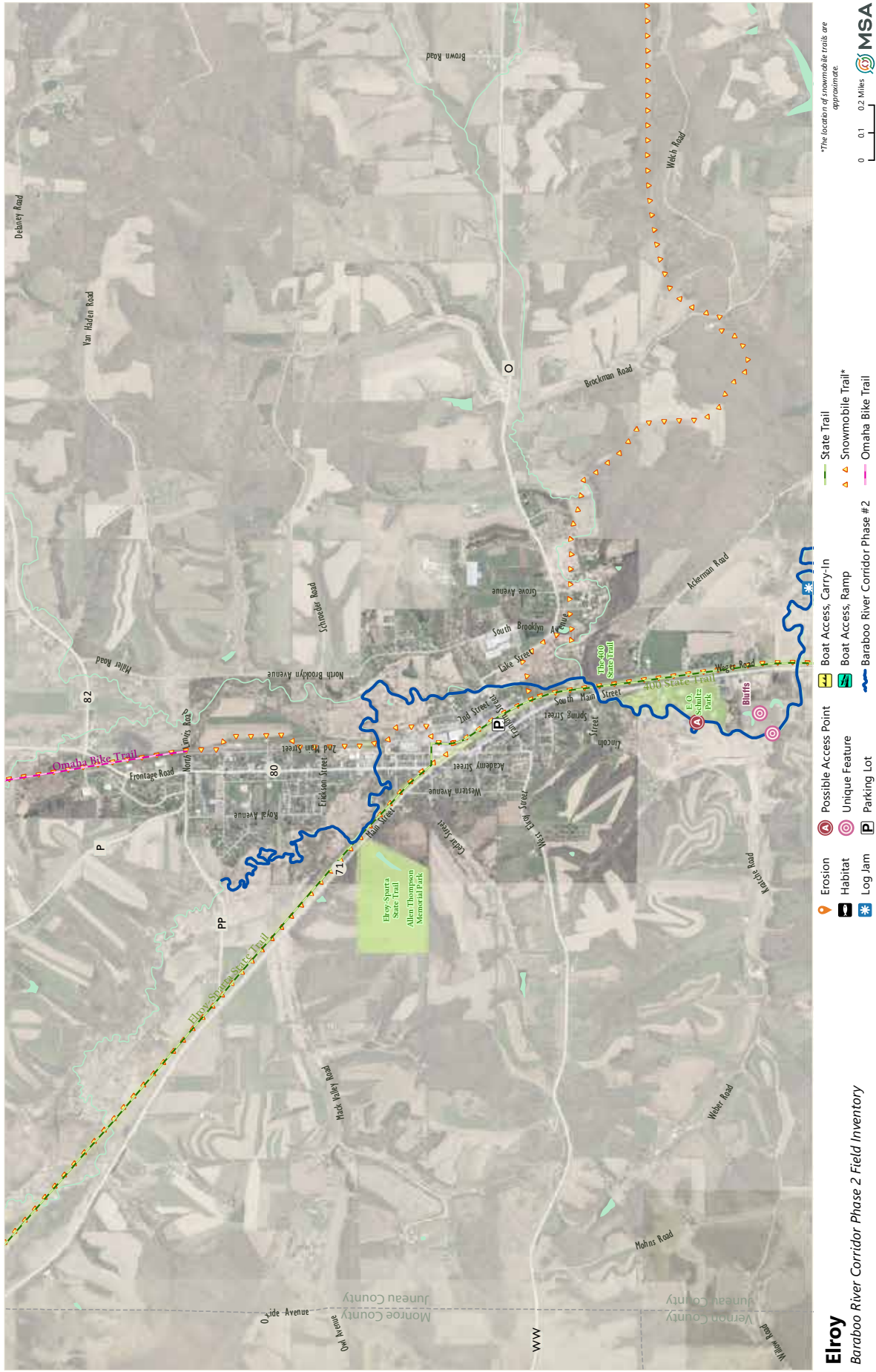
Festivals & Community Events

The Elroy Fair is an annual four day event held during the summer and features music, food, magic show, tractor and truck pull and 4-H events. The fair is held at City Park.

Apple Dumpling Day is an annual event hosted by the Elroy



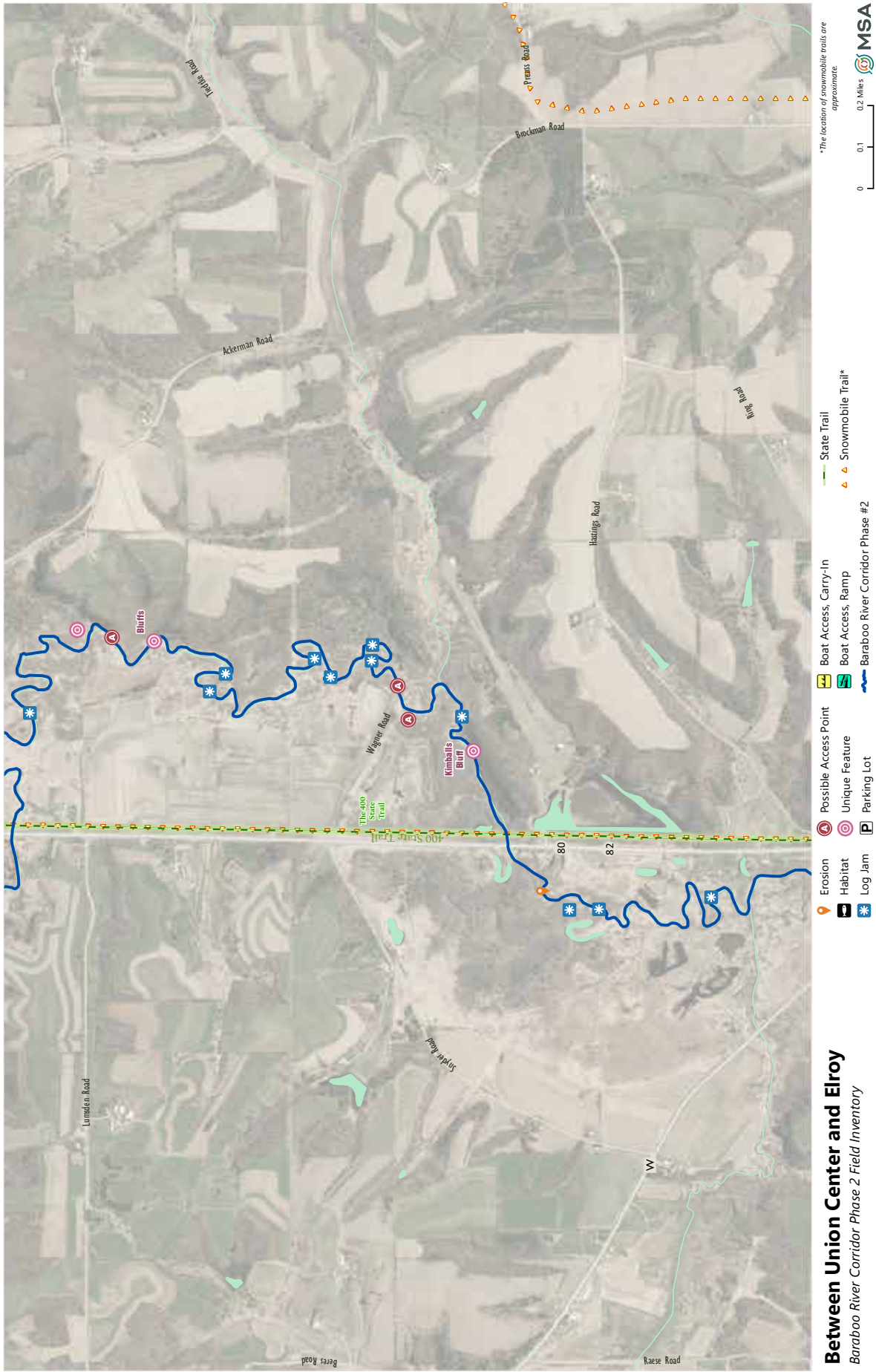
Figure 3.4 Elroy Inventory & Analysis



Elroy
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

Figure 3.5 Between Union Center and Elroy Inventory & Analysis



Between Union Center and Elroy
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Lions Club. The event includes a full (certified) marathon, half marathon, 5k and a kids race. As the name would suggest, there are apple dumplings for sale at the event. The event was canceled in 2018 due to flooding, but in 2017 there were 61 participants who ran the full marathon.

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

No freight and passenger rail services are provided within Elroy. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (23 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (29 miles).

Trails

The Elroy-Sparta Bike Trail connects the communities of Elroy and Sparta and is considered the first rail-to-trail in the United States. Between the two communities the trail passes through Norwalk, Wilton and Kendall; through wetlands, prairies, farmland and unglaciated areas. The 32.5 mile trail contains 3 century-old railroad tunnels that are each between one-quarter and three-quarters mile long. The Elroy Sparta Trail connects to the “400” State Trail near the intersection of Juneau and Railroad Streets.

The “400” State Trail runs from Elroy to Reedsburg and was named for the Chicago-Northwestern passenger train that traveled 400 miles between Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul in 400 minutes. The trail features wetlands, wildlife, sandstone bluffs, rolling crop lands and pastures and passes over the Baraboo River numerous times. The trail is 22-miles long and features a 7-mile horse trail parallel to the section between Wonewoc and La Valle. Both the “400” and Elroy-Sparta Bike Trails are part of an existing 101 mile trail system that goes to the WI/MN border.

The “400” Trail crosses the Baraboo River approximately at miles 96.8, 100.3 and 101.5.

The Omaha Trail is a Juneau County trail that runs 13 miles north from Elroy to Camp Douglas. The trail is generally straight, flat, shaded and has one 875-foot long tunnel.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

There is parking for the Elroy-Sparta and “400” State Trails where they meet, at the **Elroy Commons Trail Shop** on Railroad Street. In addition to being a trail shop and

information center, Elroy Commons offers:

- bike trail passes
- restroom with shower facilities
- free wi-fi
- parking
- bike rentals
- basketball courts
- picnic area
- new playground
- access to shops and downtown dining

There is an existing, though overgrown and unimproved canoe/kayak launch at City Park.

Public Parks Adjacent to River

Allen Thompson Memorial Park is a 40-acre park owned by WDNR that is just outside the City in the Town of Plymouth. The park provides restrooms, picnic areas and parking to visitors, as well as thirteen camping spaces.

City Park (E.O. Schultz Park) is a 28-acre park located in the south part of the City. Park amenities include a playground, picnic shelter, baseball fields, restrooms and parking. There is also a swimming pool with changing and shower facilities. One of the shower stalls is ADA accessible. In 2018 Elroy received a DNR Stewardship Grant to make the following improvements in City Park in 2019:

- **Connector bike trail** - construction of a bicycle trail from the 400 Trail to City Park
- **Campsites** - construction of four additional RV campsites near the existing RV sites
- **Benches** - addition of five benches throughout the park and along the Baraboo River
- **Upgrade canoe launch** - make the launch more accessible for canoes and kayaks
- **Walking trail** - addition of a walking trail within the park to along the Baraboo River

Privately Owned Parks

None

Additional Parks

None

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

3.4 UNION CENTER

Natural Resources

The section of Baraboo River beginning from the northernmost edge of the Village of Union Center to the northernmost edge of the Village of Wonewoc is approximately seven miles long. The stretch from Spring Valley Golf Course to the Lost District Canoe Landing in Wonewoc is approximately 6.2 miles long and takes about 2.5 hours to paddle. This stretch includes fewer log jams than the Hillsboro and Elroy stretches due to routine maintenance by the local outfitter. **Beyond Boundaries Canoe, Kayak & Bike Shop** operates out of Wonewoc and uses the stretch from Union Center to Wonewoc as their current featured trip because it is an ideal paddling trip for families and an easy day length trip. There are several areas on the River where downed trees could serve as fish habitat. Between miles 89.5 and 89.3 one can find the **Third Castle Rocks bluff**.

Several roads also cross the Baraboo:

- WIS 33 at 93.8 miles
- HahnSt/ShallerRdat 92.5 miles (this bridge is challenging to get under when the River is high)

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

None

Festivals & Community Events

The Village of Union Center holds a couple of annual community events:

- **Fireman's Party in the Park** - August
- **Annual Scenic Bluff Farmer Consignment Auction**

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

No freight and passenger rail services are provided within Union Center. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (27 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (33 miles).

Trails

The previously mentioned Hillsboro and "400" State Trails converge in Union Center at Eagle Parkway, off of WIS 80/33.

The "400" Trail crosses the Baraboo River three times at approximately 89.9, 90.6 and 93.7 miles.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

There is parking for the Hillsboro and "400" State Trails off of High Street at Eagle Parkway.

There is access to the Baraboo River at the bridge on WIS 33, south of Spring Valley Golf Course. On the north side of the bridge there is a grassy slope from which canoes and kayaks can launch. There is no formal parking, people generally park along WIS 33.

Public Parks Adjacent to River

None

Privately Owned Parks

None

Additional Parks

There are additional parks throughout the community that could further connect a web of recreational opportunities:

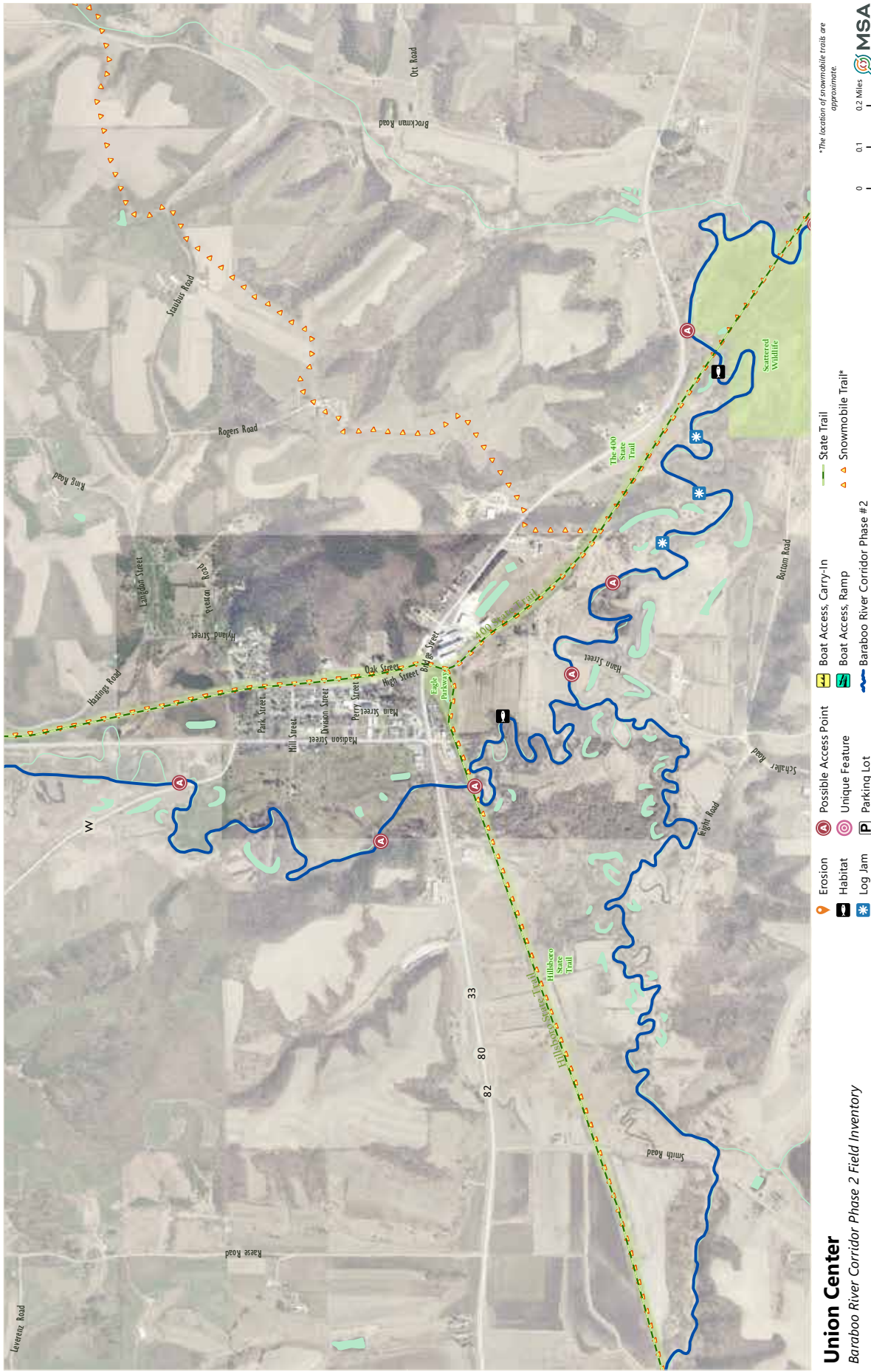
- **Eagle Parkway**

Other Recreation Resources

Spring Valley Golf Course - The Spring Valley Golf Course is a 9-hole public golf course with 6,061 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 36. The facility also includes a full service restaurant and bar. The Baraboo River flows through this course which has a prominent bluff line adjacent to it.



Figure 3.6 Union Center Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

3.5 WONEWOC

Natural Resources

The Baraboo River from the northernmost edge of the Village of Wonewoc to the northernmost edge of the Village of La Valle is approximately 16 miles. The stretch of the River from Strawbridge Road outside of Wonewoc to W. Main Street in La Valle is 12.3 miles long and takes six to seven hours to paddle. This section of the Baraboo River has numerous log jams, despite being semi-regularly cleared. Beyond Boundaries Canoe, Kayak and Bike Shop has been working (as time allows) on this stretch of the river since the flood of 2008, but the longer river mileage between towns leaves them having to maintain Union Center to Wonewoc first and foremost. The scenic topography and the possibility for multi-length trips in this section make this their desired future featured section.

This section of the River also has moderate erosion and locations where downed trees could be used for fish habitat or to prevent erosion if they are pinned back. There is a stretch of bluffs between miles 75 and 76.

Several roads also cross the Baraboo:

- CTH FF at 87.6 miles
- Washington St at 87.5 miles
- CTH G at 85.5 miles
- Strawbridge Road at 84.8 miles
- N Dutch Hollow Rd at 75.9 miles

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

Little Canada - Local name for the dwellings on the west side of the Baraboo River opposite the downtown. The name was earned during Prohibition as some residents in this area engaged in distillation of alcohol for consumption. The name was also a nod to the US/Canada relationship at the time.

Hoover Hotel - During the Great Depression this building was used by transient homeless persons as a place to sleep or stay out of the elements when traveling by rail. The building contains graffiti and carvings from the era and a fire pit/chimney. It is located off the walkway connection between the existing Lost District Canoe Landing and Downtown Business District.

Wonewoc also has several buildings on the Wisconsin Architecture and Historic Inventory:

- **1889 Bank of Wonewoc**
- **St. Paul's Church**
- **Wonewoc Library**
- **Numerous other houses and commercial businesses along Center St.**

Festivals & Community Events

The Village of Wonewoc holds a number of annual festivals:

- **Easter Egg Hunt** - March, April
- **Old Fashioned Days** - May/June
- **Wonewoc StreetFest** - July
- **Hunter's Night Out** - September
- **Homecoming Parade** - September, October
- **Wonewoc Lions Fall Festival** - October
- **Breakfast with Santa** - December
- **Lighted Christmas Parade** - December

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

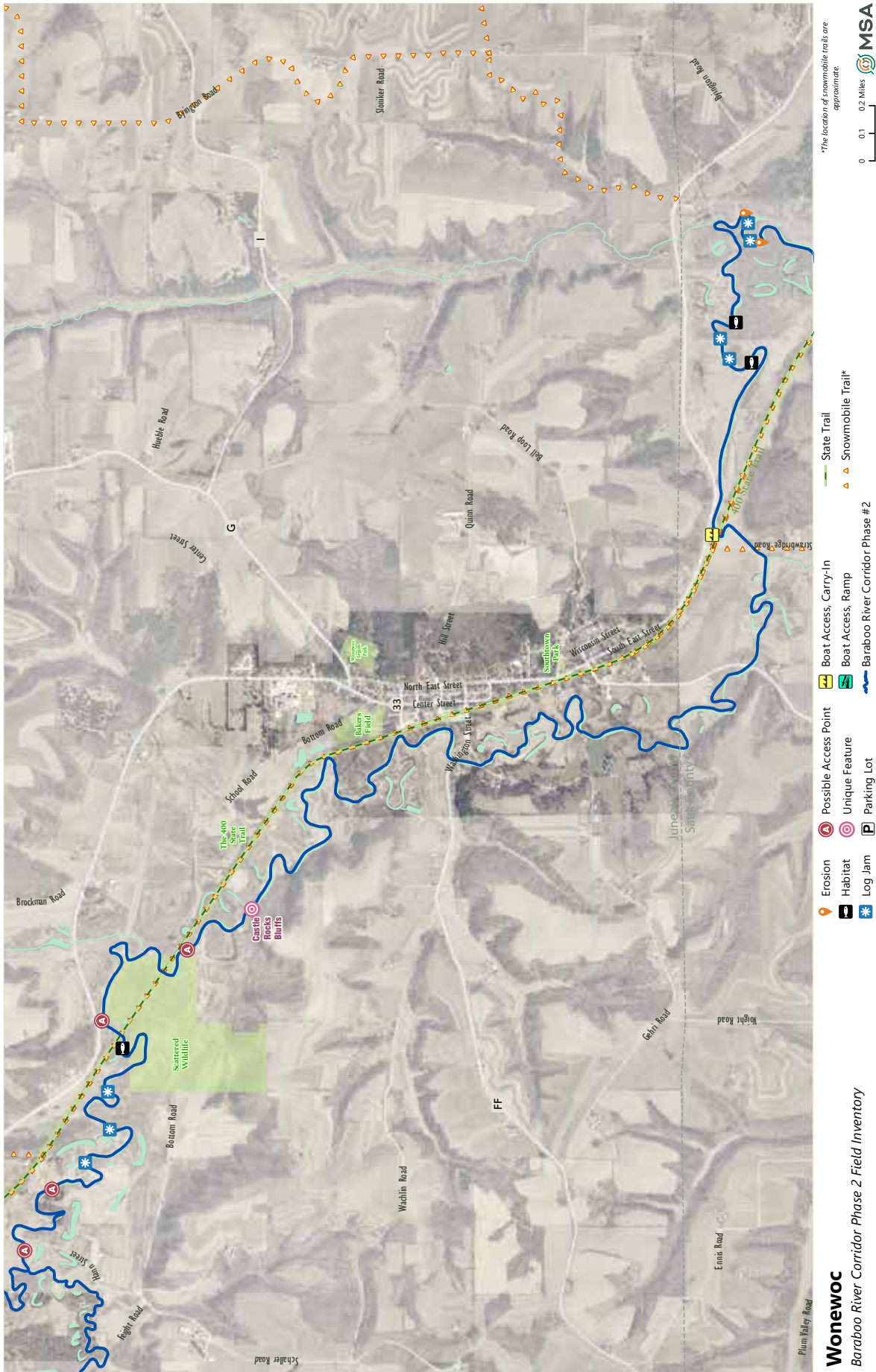
No freight and passenger rail services are provided within Wonewoc. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (31 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (28 miles).

Trails

Wonewoc is known as the midpoint of the "400" Trail. There are non-electric campsites adjacent to Bakers Field for those who use the "400" Trail, as well as a picnic area.

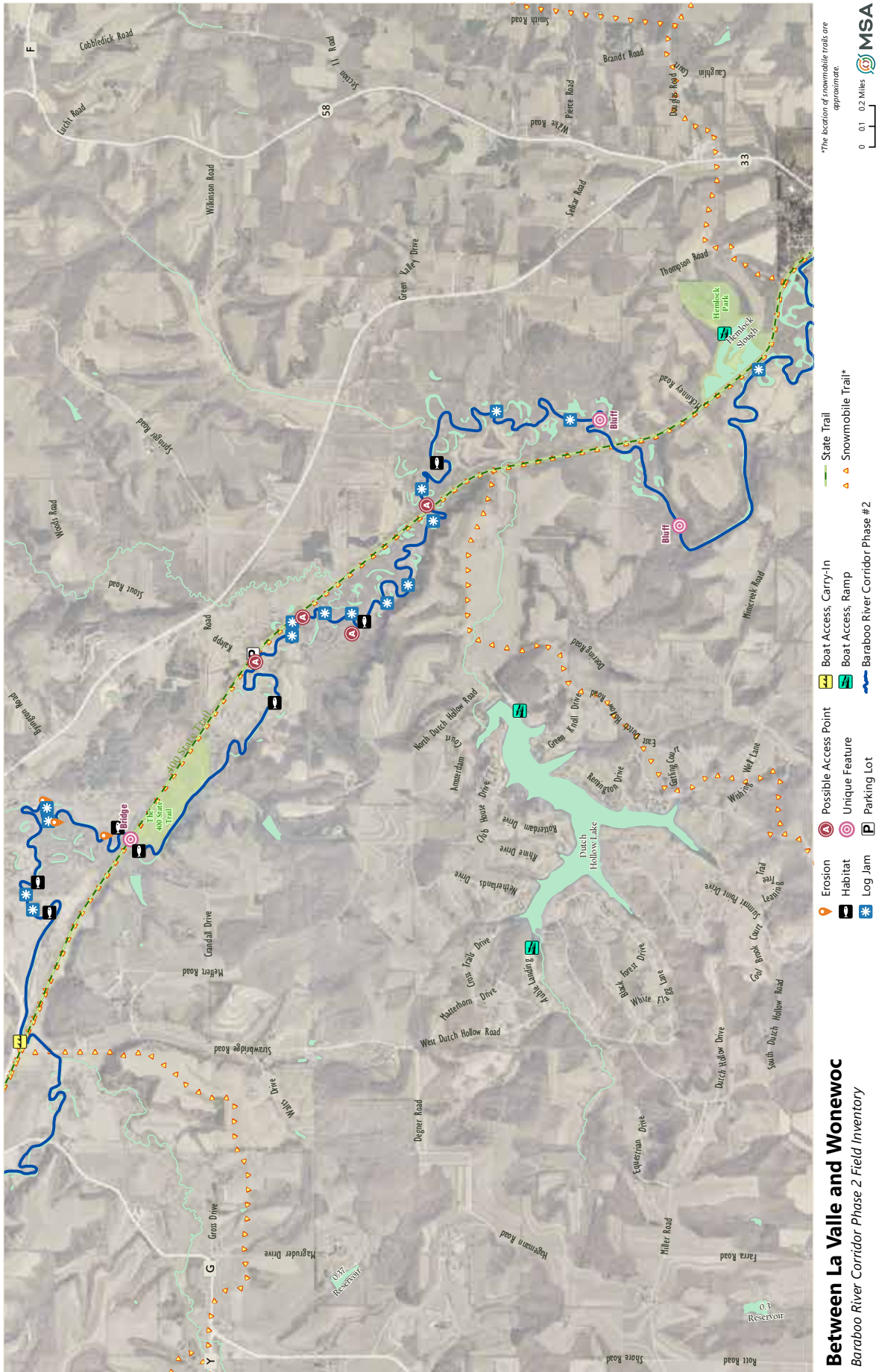


Figure 3.7 Wonevoc Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

Figure 3.8 Between La Valle and Wonewoc Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The “400” Trail crosses the Baraboo River four times at approximately 75.9, 78.2, 82.0 and 84.7 miles.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

There is public access within Wonewoc on CTH FF (**Lost District Canoe Landing**) . The site has a canoe/kayak launch, gravel parking, one small portable toilet, grills and picnic tables.

Just east of Wonewoc, on WIS 33 at Strawbridge Road, there is parking for the “400” Trail and a place to launch a canoe/kayak (Fern/Fairy Dell). The launch is not improved.

Public Parks Adjacent to River

None

Privately Owned Parks

Outdoor Learning Area (OLA) is owned by the Wonewoc-Union Center School District and is located on floodplain between the Wonewoc Center Schools and the River. Facilities at the OLA include 2.5 miles of hiking/skiing trails, porta-potty, drinking water, storage garage, challenge course and views of Third Castle Rock Bluff.

Additional Parks

There are additional parks throughout the community that could further connect a web of recreational opportunities:

- **Wonewoc Legion Park**
- **Southtown Park**
- **Bakers Field**
- **Fern/Fairy Dell.** In addition to a canoe/kayak launch and parking there is a natural spring, benches, and a new gazebo built by the Wonewoc Lions

3.6 LA VALLE

Natural Resources

The Baraboo River runs from the northwest corner of the Village of La Valle to the southern edge of the Village and this section is approximately 11 miles to Reedsburg. The section of the River from Douglas Road outside of La Valle to the Granite Avenue launch in Reedsburg is 8.3 miles and takes approximately four hours to paddle. There are small rapids located under the Highway 58 bridge in La Valle. These sections are generally easy paddling through floodplain forest ecosystem with very little development and very little farmland. This section of the river is also wider and has some exposed sandy shoreline and sandbars. The river parallels the 400 Bike Trail from La Valle to Reedsburg.

This stretch is a bald eagle nesting area. Log jams in this section are minor due to annual maintenance for the Reedsburg Kiwanis Lazy Beaver Race. There was also significant erosion and steep, nearly vertical banks halfway between La Valle and Reedsburg.

Several roads cross the Baraboo:

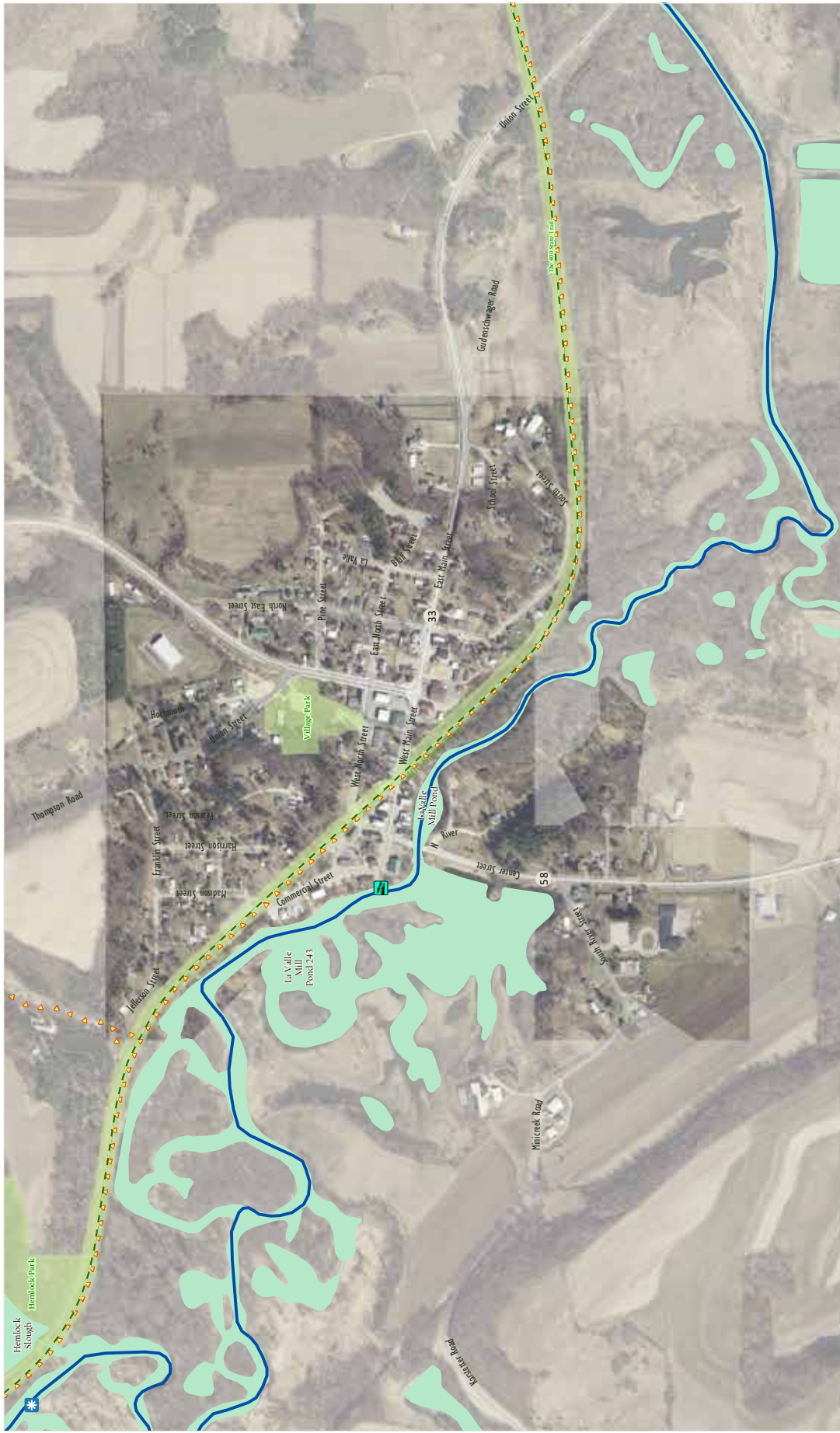
- Center St. at 72.5 miles
- WIS 33 at 71.1 miles
- CTH V at 69.1 miles

Lake Redstone connects to the Baraboo River via Big Creek around mile 69.25. This a 635-acre lake that has public boat landings, a public beach, and opportunities for fishing.

Dutch Hollow Lake connects to the Baraboo River via Dutch Hollow Creek around mile 76.75. This is a 172-acre lake that has public boat landings. Private amenities at Dutch Hollow Lake include a campground, beach, picnic



Figure 3.9 La Valle Inventory & Analysis



La Valle
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Habitat
- Log Jam
- Possible Access Point
- Unique Feature
- Parking Lot
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2
- State Trail
- Snowmobile Trail*

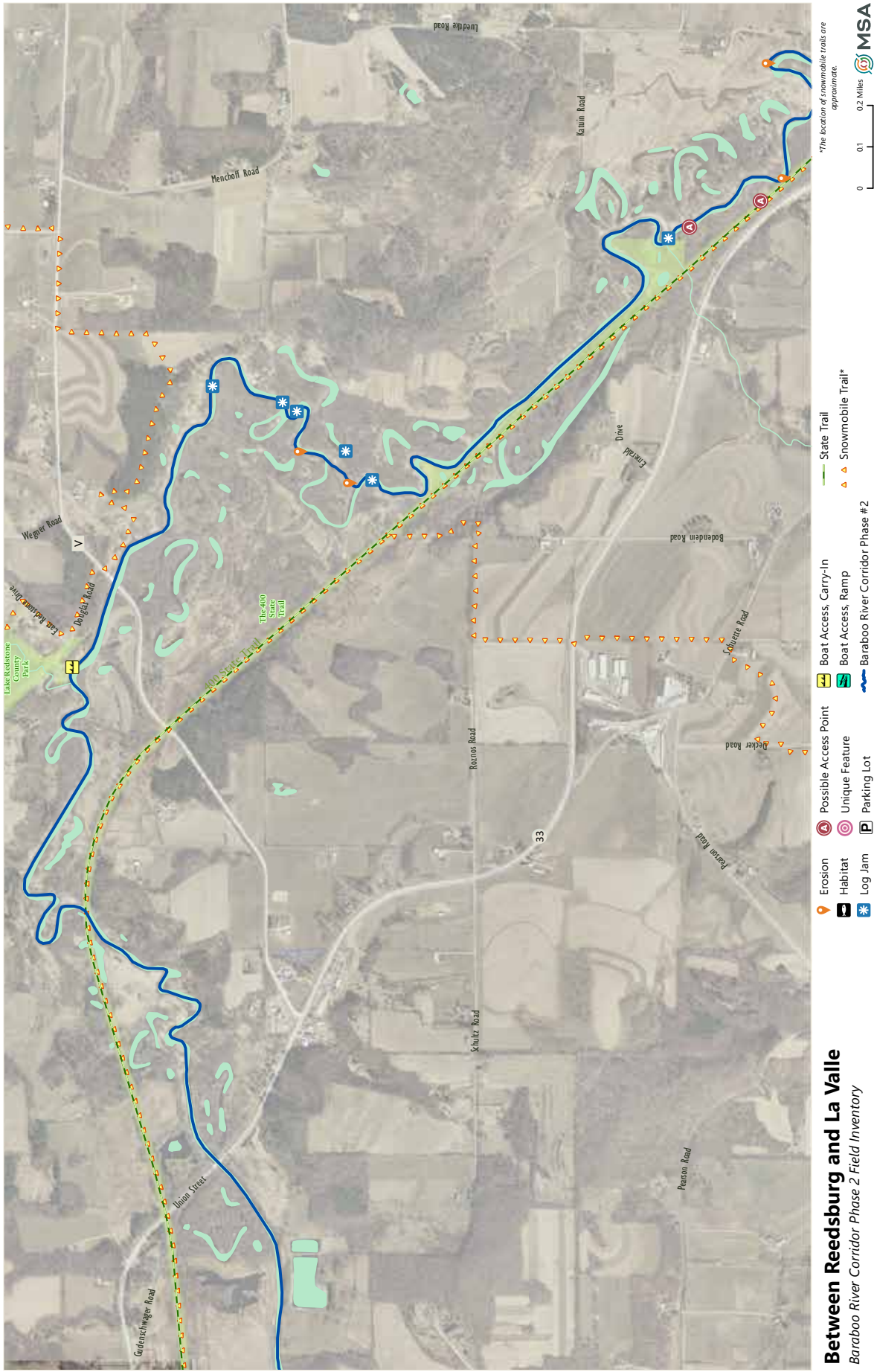
*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

0 0.1 0.2 Miles

MSA

Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

Figure 3.10 Between Reedsburg and La Valle Inventory & Analysis



Between Reedsburg and La Valle
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

areas, pool, sand volleyball, tennis courts, and a clubhouse with snack shop. These amenities are available to members for free and to non-members for a fee. Both lakes are natural and recreational assets to La Valle.

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

There are no significant archaeological sites in the immediate La Valle area. There are two historic bed and breakfasts located in the area:

- **September Farms**
- **Millhouse**

Festivals & Community Events

The Lazy Beaver Canoe and Kayak Race is an annual paddling event that is held the last Saturday in July. This is a family fun event that is open to serious as well as leisurely paddlers. There are many different divisions plus an award for Best Decorated Boat or Kayak. The event is followed by an awards ceremony and cookout.

Other events include the **Fourth of July Fireworks and La Valle Celebration** in August. La Valle Celebration features a softball tournament, 5k run/walk, craft fair, parade, food, horseshoe tournament and games for kids.

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

No freight and passenger rail services are provided within La Valle. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (39 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (21 miles).

Trails

The **"400"Trail** runs directly through the Village and crosses the Baraboo River once at approximately 70.2 miles.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

There is a trailhead for the "400"Trail in downtown La Valle near the intersection of Trail Street and W North Street. The trailhead includes parking, restrooms and drinking water.

At the west end of Main Street there is a landing for paddlers to use, with parking provided. Restrooms are available one block northeast at the "400"Trail trailhead.

Public Parks Adjacent to River

Outside of the Village of La Valle, around mile 74, is **Hemlock-Sauk County Park** which is adjacent to the Baraboo River and the "400"Trail. The Park offers picnic tables, a swingset, grills and an ADA accessible bathroom. Within the park there is a lake with a boat ramp and ADA accessible fishing pier that provides opportunities to fish for northern pike, largemouth bass or pan fish. There is ample parking onsite and no entrance fee is required.

Privately Owned Parks

None

Additional Park

There are additional parks throughout the community that could further connect a web of recreational opportunities:

- **Village Park**

3.7 REEDSBURG

Natural Resources

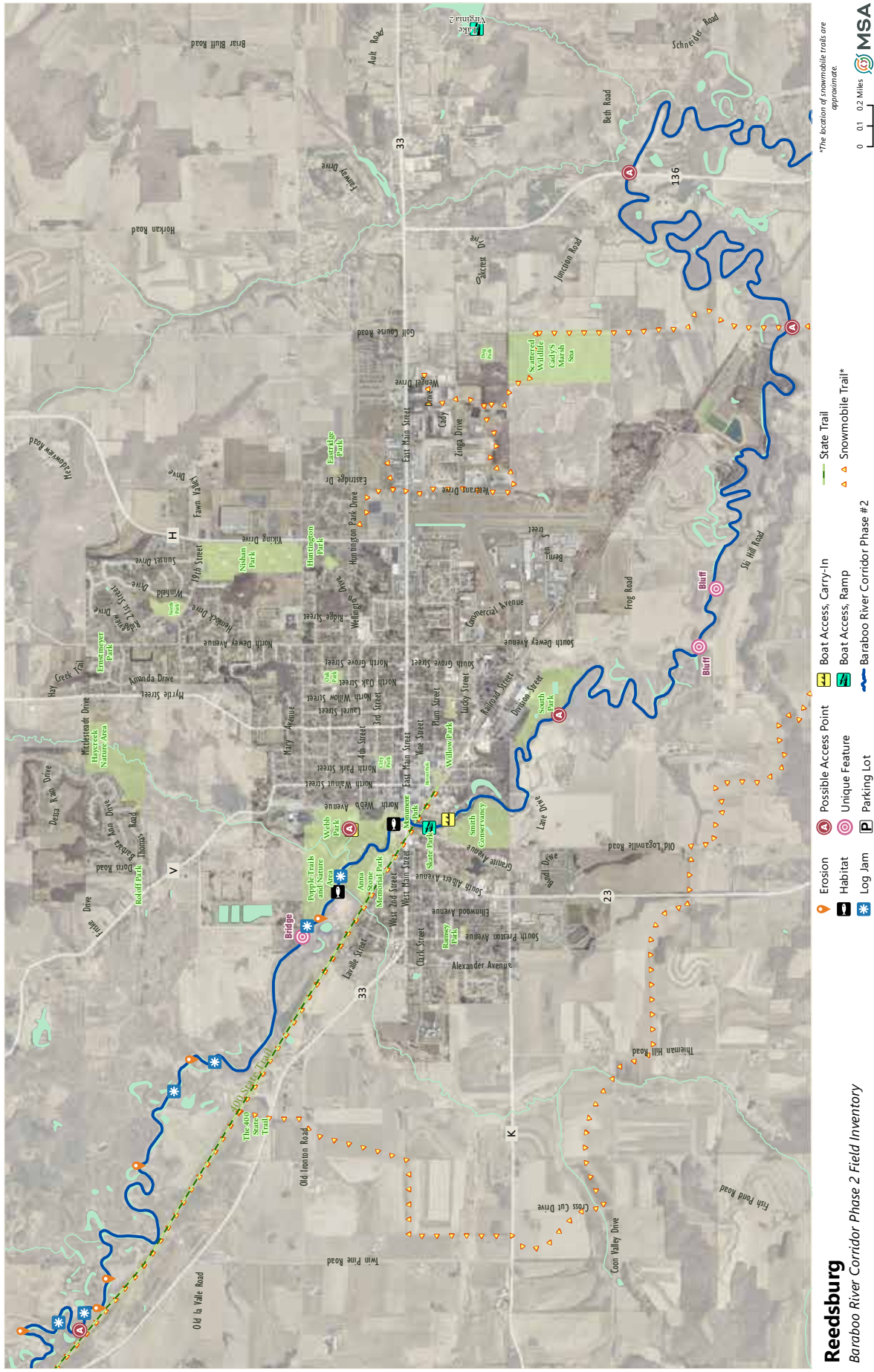
The Baraboo River from the northernmost edge of the City of Reedsburg to the northernmost edge of the Village of Rock Springs is approximately 15.8 miles. If the river is cleared, it is estimated that it would take 5-7 hours to paddle from the landing on Granite Avenue to the landing off Cty Rd DD in Rock Springs. There are no access points between these two landings, so this section is not frequently paddled. This section features some rocky cliffs west of South Dewey Avenue and between South Dewey and Golf Course Road on the south side. There are also cliffs and rock formations once you get closer to Rock Springs.

Bald eagles have been spotted in this section. This section of the River also has log jams and locations where downed trees could be used for fish habitat, and moderate erosion. There is a stretch of bluffs between miles 46 and 47.

Several roads also cross the Baraboo:

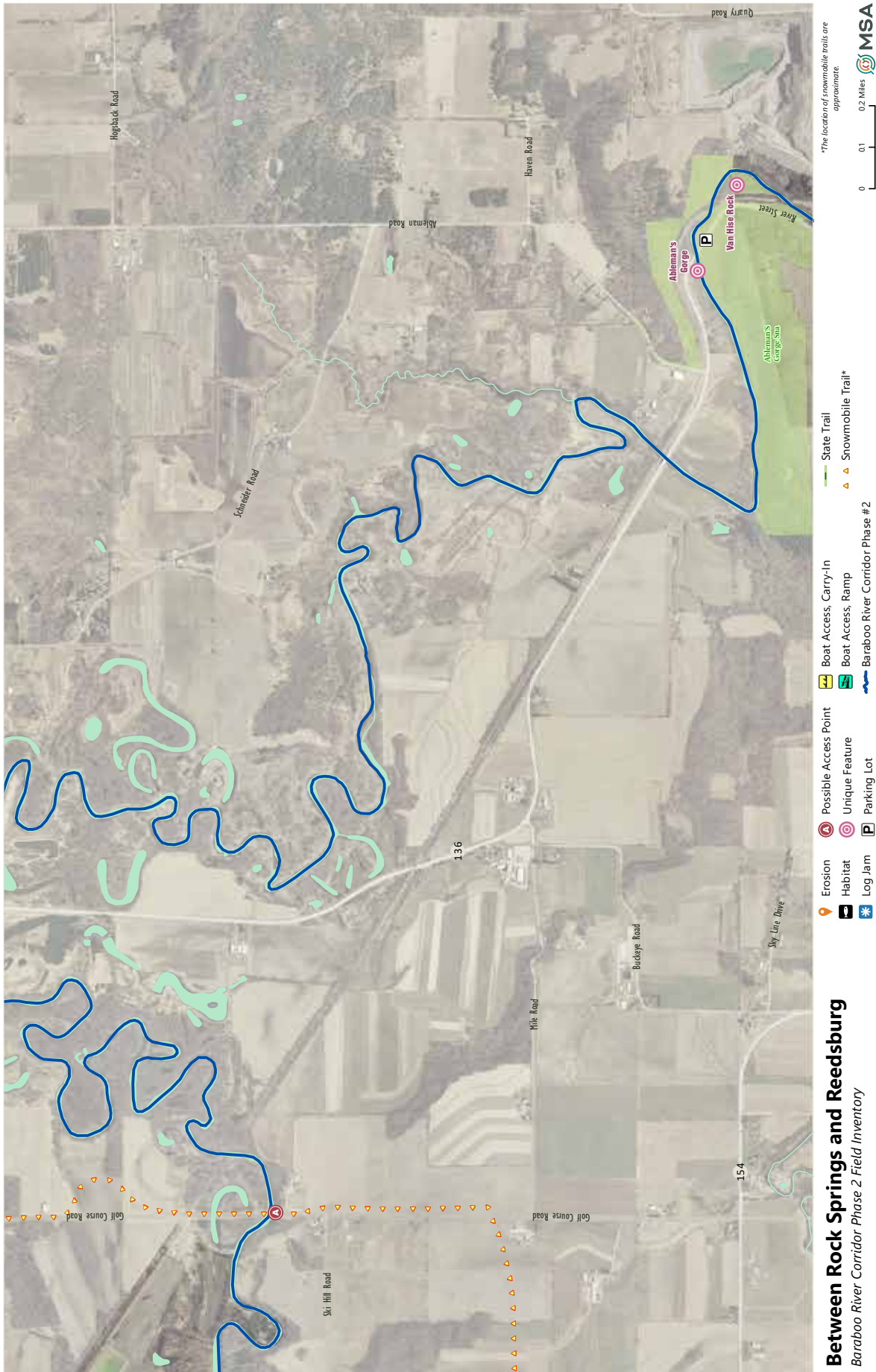
- W Main St at 61.0 miles
- S Webb Ave at 60.8 miles
- S Dewey Ave at 57.8 miles
- S Golf Course Rd at 55.3 miles
- WIS 136 at 52.1, 47.4 and 46.5 miles

Figure 3.11 Reedsburg Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

Figure 3.12 Between Rock Springs and Reedsburg Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

Reedsburg has 13 buildings listed on the State and/or National Historic Register:

- **Chicago & Northwestern Depot**
- **City Hotel**
- **J.W. Corwith Livery**
- **Edward M. Hackett House**
- **Abner L. Harris House**
- **Reedsburg Brewery**
- **Reedsburg Post Office**
- **Reedsburg Woolen Mill Office**
- **William Riggert House**
- **William Stolte Jr. Houses**
- **Main Street Commercial Historic District**
- **Park Street Historic District**

Festivals & Community Events

Reedsburg is known as a City of Festivals and hosts several annual events:

- **The Lazy Beaver Canoe and Kayak Race** is an annual paddling event that is held the last Saturday in July. This is a family fun event that is open to serious as well as leisurely paddlers. There are many different divisions plus an award for Best Decorated Boat or Kayak. The event is followed by an awards ceremony and cookout.
- **Fermentation Fest:** Developed by the Wormfarm Institute, Sauk County and the Reedsburg Chamber of Commerce. The annual festival began in October 2011 and includes tastings, cooking classes, seminars and farm tours.
- **Butter Festival:** Between the 1960s and 1980, Reedsburg's local milk processing plant produced more butter than any other place in the world. Butterfest has been held for over 40 years and consists of tractor pulls, arts and craft show, demo derby, live music, carnival and concessions, a parade and famous chicken barbecue.
- **Vet Fest, Freedom Fest, Reedikulus Art Crawl,** and more.

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

No freight and passenger rail services are provided within Reedsburg. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (50 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (16 miles).

Trails

The "400" trail terminates in Reedsburg at the Reedsburg Depot. The **Reedsburg Depot** is the trail headquarters and office for the Reedsburg Chamber of Commerce. The depot is used as an information center with interpretive displays and public rest area facilities.

The "400" Trail crosses the Baraboo River once at approximately 60.9 miles.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

Reedsburg's primary access is near the Skate Park on Granite Ave. This site contains a covered shelter, three tent camp sites and parking. There is also an undeveloped access point at South Park (discussed below).

Public Parks Adjacent to River

Monument Park is a small park located between Star Cinema and the Baraboo River. The park contains a paved trail that connects to the Popple Nature Area trails.

Popple Nature Area is the City's premiere nature area and walking trail. In addition to access to the Baraboo River, the park also contains Half Moon Pond, Hay Creek and an 18-hole disc golf course.

Smith Conservancy is a small wooded wetland area that has some benches and walking trails.

South Park provides access to the Baraboo River for fishing and paddling. The park also has a small pond and popular fresh water spring, which many utilize for fresh water. The park contains restrooms and a small shelter.

Webb Park is adjacent to Webb Middle School and the Popple Nature Area. The park contains the Webb Swimming Pool, Webb tennis courts, picnic shelters, playground equipment, grills, restroom and a pond. The pond does not connect to Hay Creek or the Baraboo River.

Privately Owned Parks

None.

Additional Parks

There are additional parks throughout the community that could further connect a web of recreational opportunities:

- **Anna Stone Park**
- **East Ridge Estates**
- **City Park**
- **North Park**
- **Huntington park**
- **Oak Park**
- **Ramsey Park**
- **Roloff Park**
- **Willow Park**
- **Nishan Park**
- **Hay Creek**
- **Ernstmeyer Park**

Other Recreation Resources

Reedsburg Country Club - The Reedsburg Country Club is an 18-hole, private golf course. The facility also features a full-service bar and restaurant as well as an event space for weddings and banquets.

Pioneer Log Village - The Pioneer Log Village allows people to experience what life was like in the early 1800s. The Village features nine original log cabins, three pioneer homes, a one-room school, log church, general store and post office, a library and blacksmith shop, plus a large apothecary garden. Three large museum buildings house artifacts, relics and treasures from local early settlers.

3.8 ROCK SPRINGS

Natural Resources

This section of the Baraboo River is approximately six miles and runs from the northernmost edge of the Village to the western edge of the Village of North Freedom. It is estimated that it takes approximately three hours to paddle this section. **Ableman's Gorge State Natural Area** is located at the northernmost edge of Rock Springs. Ableman's Gorge is a classic gorge cut by the Baraboo River through Baraboo quartzite, Cambrian sandstone and conglomerate. The cliffs and rocky slopes rise about 200 feet above the river to form a wall nearly three-fourths of a mile long.

In northern Rock Springs, between the Baraboo River and River Street, there is an artesian well. The well is privately owned, though the owner allows people to stop and fill up water bottles. People come from a wide radius, even the Madison area, to fill up water jugs here. A local geologist has confirmed that this water comes from a deep aquifer. There are two additional artesian wells in Jodi Kay Busser Memorial Park.

WIS 154/136 crosses the Baraboo at 45.4 miles.

Cultural & Historic Resources

Archaeological & Historic Sites

Within Ableman's Gorge, along WIS 136, **Van Hise Rock** is another draw for visitors. Van Hise Rock is named after University of Wisconsin Professor Charles Van Hise, who used the rock outcropping to demonstrate the kinds of changes that occur in rocks during periods of mountain formation. Van Hise's concepts became universally accepted as the principles of structural geology.

Festivals & Community Events

Rock Springs hosts the annual **Rock Springs Celebration** during June. The Celebration includes a parade, softball tournament, food, craft fair, petting zoo, bounce house, and more.

Infrastructure Resources

Railroads

Freight rail service is provided for Milestone Materials Pink Lady Quarry and United Cooperative Grain Facility in Rock Springs. No passenger rail services are provided within Rock Springs. The closest passenger rail line, Amtrak, has a station in the Cities of Tomah (62 miles) and Wisconsin Dells (17 miles).

Trails

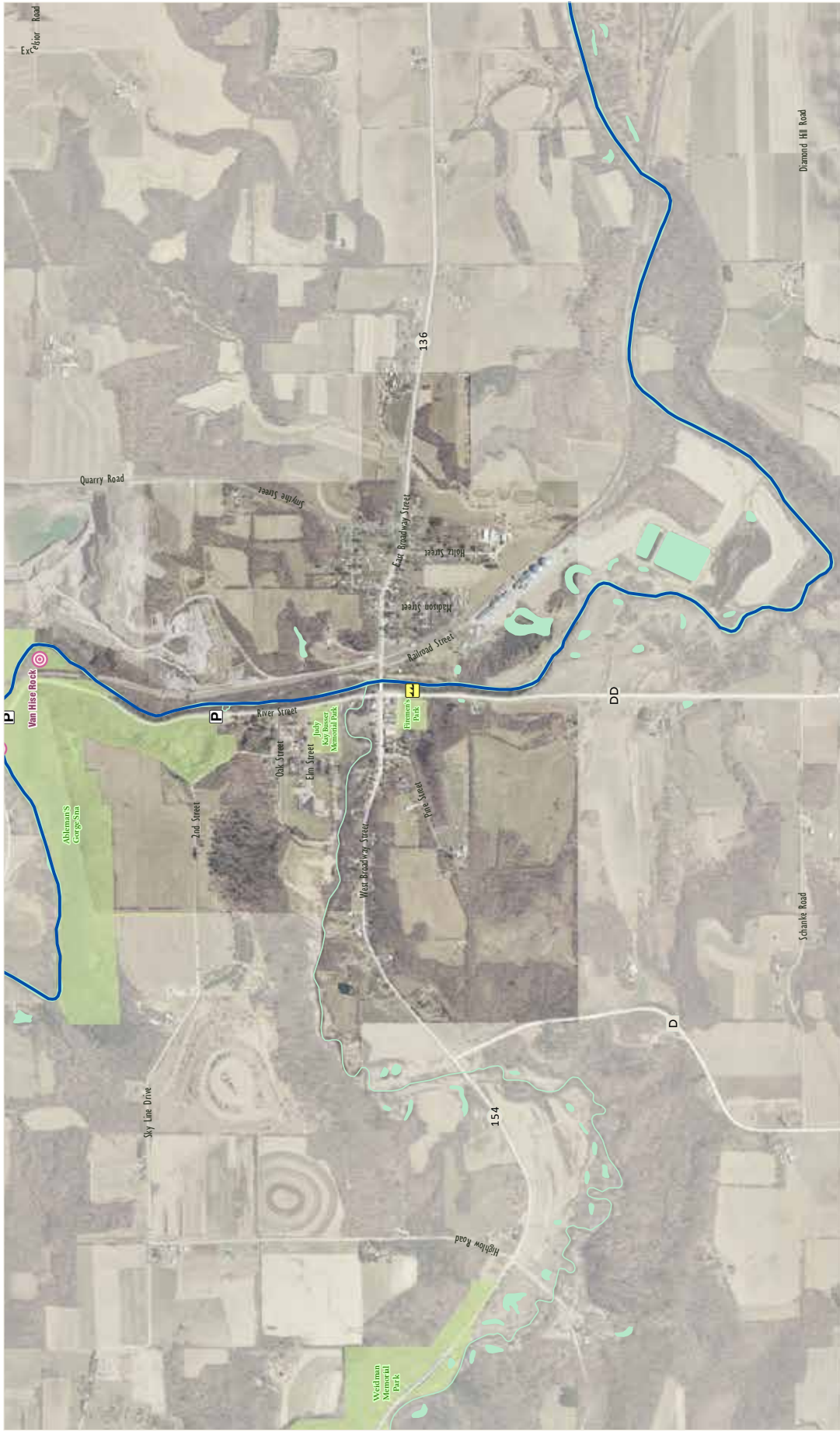
Ableman's Gorge State Natural Area has a series of trails that lead from the artesian well in northern Rock Springs to Van Hise Rock.

Recreational Resources

Access & Parking

Rock Springs' access to the Baraboo River is on River Street, across from Firemen's Park. The site also contains parking. There is also undeveloped access at Jodie Kay Busser

Figure 3-13 Rock Springs Inventory & Analysis



Rock Springs
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Habitat
- Log Jam
- Possible Access Point
- Unique Feature
- Parking Lot
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2
- State Trail
- Snowmobile Trail*

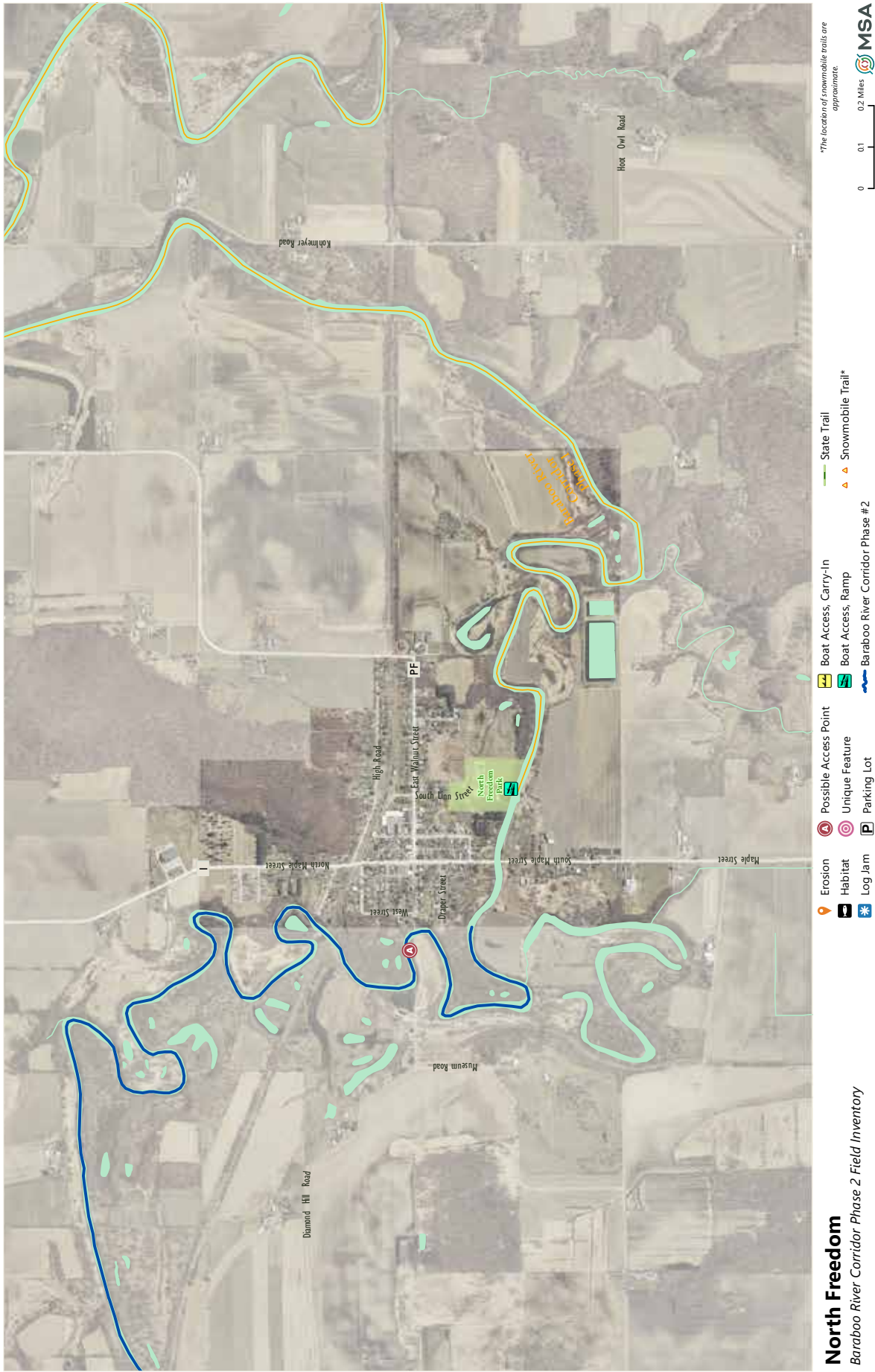
*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

0 0.1 0.2 Miles

MSA

Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

Figure 3.14 Between North Freedom and Rock Springs Inventory & Analysis



Note: The recorded log jams and erosion reflect the conditions of the River at a point in time, and these are subject to change.

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Memorial Park to Narrows Creek which connects to the Baraboo River.

Public Parks Adjacent to River

Firemen's Park is located immediately across the street from the canoe/kayak launch in Rock Springs. Firemen's Park has a baseball diamond, playground equipment, and restrooms.

Jodi Kay Busser Memorial Park is located across the street from the Baraboo River. The park includes playground equipment, two artesian wells and access to Narrows Creek which connects to the Baraboo River.

Privately Owned Parks

None

Additional Parks

None

3.9 STAKEHOLDER ASSESSMENT

BRCPP Phase II stakeholders included staff, board members, business owners, and residents from Hillsboro, Elroy, Union Center, Wonewoc, La Valle, Reedsburg, Rock Springs, Sauk County and Juneau County. To gain insight from a variety of viewpoints, MSA conducted five focus group discussions, several interviews and one public open house.

Focus Group Interviews

Individual focus groups were held with Hillsboro, La Valle and Rock Springs. Reedsburg and Sauk County held a joint focus group, as did Elroy, Union Center, Wonewoc and Juneau County. Participants generally saw the Baraboo River as an underutilized recreation resource in terms of fishing, paddling and viewing wildlife. Participants mentioned the unparalleled beauty of the bluffs in the area, the diversity of wildlife and the serenity of the Baraboo River as the biggest draws for visitors and local tourists. Some of the greatest concerns with the Baraboo River were numerous log jams; a lack of information about access points, difficulty level of stretches due to downed logs and length, nearby businesses, etc; and a lack of access points and amenities for paddlers, such as campsites, restrooms, picnic area.

Capitol Water Trail Interview

A meeting was held with the Executive Director of Capitol Water Trails (CWT) on September 10, 2018. At this meeting CWT discussed some of the Baraboo River's greatest needs in order to make it a paddling destination: brochures with river trip times; more landings located either on straight stretches of river or on inner curves; and shoreline restoration in agricultural areas with erosion. CWT also offered to do a swift water rescue training refresher with communities along the Baraboo River.

At this meeting CWT also discussed river clearing. River clearing is another critical factor to making the Baraboo a paddling destination as there are currently numerous downed logs clogging up the river trail. CWT suggested the Friends group could look for volunteers to help with this, specifically people who have a vested interest in the River. The one issue to consider with volunteers is liability. The goal would be to get one person per community to take part in river clearing. When the River is cleared now, it is typically cleared enough so that a canoe or kayak can pass through, however emergency services generally desire a six foot wide opening.

In July 2018, the Friends of the Baraboo River, in coordination with Beyond Boundaries, organized a significant river clearing event which invited Team Rubicon (an international non-profit veteran service organization) and Capitol Water Trails came to clear log jams between Wonewoc and La Valle. The equipment that Capitol Water Trails had, that would be recommended for purchase within the Baraboo River, included:

- Winch \$850
- Winch rope \$160
- Chainsaw to run winch \$529
- 24" bar chainsaw \$520
- 14" arborist chainsaw \$390
- Pole saw \$600
- Hand ropes \$238
- Hook for hand ropes \$27

Other equipment ideal for river clearing is a Jon Boat (10hp motor) and trailer and/or a 17' canoe. The Friends of the Baraboo River is currently pursuing funds to purchase the

equipment listed above. Once the equipment is purchased it will be available to all municipalities and other groups that wish to do log jam removal.

Public Safety Officials Interview

A meeting was held with public safety officials along the Phase II section of the BRC on October 18, 2018. At this meeting we learned that there are currently some rescues being done along the River, and most of these rescues are people who are scared and lost. As the Corridor becomes increasingly promoted as a recreation destination, we expect that the number of calls for help will increase. Currently, the two most challenging aspects of doing river rescues are locating people and having the equipment necessary to do the rescue. In order to locate people more easily, public safety officials would like to see mile markers on the River and more access points, with some of the access points being accessible to motorized boats. The greatest need in terms of equipment to do river rescues is for light weight, flat bottom boats with tunnel hulls and jet outboard motors. There are many underwater sticks and logs which are difficult to see until you hit them, which can be an issue if you are using a traditional motor on the Baraboo River.

In addition to boats, the Village of Wonewoc submitted a list of specific items it needs for river rescues that could be used by other communities:

Water Rescue Task Force

- (1) Boat \$4,500
- (2) SCBA bottle (for filling boat) \$0
- (3) Ropes - 500' 3/8" water rescue \$1,200
- (3) Ropes - 300' 3/8" water rescue \$705
- (6) Carabiners, steel, heavy duty \$216
- (20) Carabiners, aluminum \$300
- (4) System pulleys, prusik minding \$300
- (30) Prusik cords (2 sizes) \$150
- (1) Large trolley pulley \$100

Personal Gear (one for each trained member)

- Rescue PFD \$195
- Tether (optional) \$22
- Knife \$25
- Helmet \$35
- Micro pulley \$13
- Personal carabiner \$7
- Throw bag \$35
- NRS farmer john wetsuit \$100
- NRS farmer john jacket \$105
- Rocka dry suit safety boot \$135
- Training (operations & technical) \$650
- Travel for training \$350

The group also felt that there is a lack of information available about the River and people don't understand how long some the stretches take to paddle and how meandering the river can be. Some people are also unaware of when



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they should not enter the river (e.g. flood stage). It would be helpful to communicate to people, through signage or online, about when it is unsafe to be on the River.

Economic Development Groups Interview

A discussion was held in-person with the Sauk County Development Corporation on October 18, 2018, and comments were submitted via email from the Vernon County Economic Development Association and the Juneau County Economic Development Association. All three groups were extremely supportive of the effort to improve the corridor and see the improvement of the Baraboo River as a recreation corridor as a big draw for a younger workforce and the companies looking to attract them. The group noted that more needs to be done to promote the BRC and the recreation opportunities that are available, the natural beauty of the area and the history of how the river was once used as well as the uniqueness of its ecosystem. All three counties are interested in doing more to help promote the Corridor. This group saw the target market for the BRC as young families, people vacationing in the Wisconsin Dells, locals, and people from larger cities within the Midwest (e.g. Minneapolis, Madison, Milwaukee, La Crosse). The three economic development groups suggested that in order for the Baraboo River to provide economic benefit to the counties, the following issues need to be addressed:

- Log jams cleared
- Ensure the river is a safe place to recreate (i.e. Public Safety officials need swift water rescue training refresher and equipment)
- Detailed information needs to be provided for each paddling stretch along the River, including the location of parking and launches, portages, difficulty and length of trip, and local amenities that enhance the travel experience.

Public Open House

MSA facilitated a public open house on October 10, 2018 to review existing resources and initial findings and discuss how to improve the Baraboo River Corridor. Approximately ten people showed up and were asked to share their thoughts, concerns, the current state of the corridor, strengths and weaknesses and a vision for the future.

When asked what the biggest weakness of the BRC was, responses included mud and low water when paddling

(low water allows paddlers to primarily just view cliffs). The words used to describe the BRC today included “variety of experiences” and “beauty”. Responses regarding the biggest strengths of the BRC included that it can be segmented and that it provides many opportunities.

A station with maps was also set up for each community and attendees were asked to share location-specific improvements to the BRC. These ideas were incorporated into the conceptual plans in Chapter 4 and recommendations in Chapter 5 and generally included additional access points, locations for future campgrounds and suggestions about improving aesthetics and enhancing the natural beauty of the BRC.

3.10 ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES

Based on the inventory and analysis of the BRC, the following strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) have been identified. This SWOT analysis was used to generate goals and recommendations.

Strengths

- Variety of types of recreation are possible: paddling, hiking, biking, fishing, birding, hunting.
- Natural beauty of the river and forests.
- Unique rock outcroppings.
- Diverse mammals, birds, fish and amphibians.
- Longest restored free-flowing river in the United States.
- Variety of businesses within each community.
- Opportunity to recreate in a place that is relatively secluded.
- Communities are working together to improve the region.
- Friends of the Baraboo River fundraising and promoting the river.
- Historic railroad bridges that date back to the 19th century.

Weaknesses

- Water quality improving, but still poor due to phosphorus and sediment.
- Frequent log jams, no regular clearing is done.
- Lack of paddle shops/outfitters to rent equipment, guide visitors and shuttle to and from access points.
- Lack of information for potential visitors about length

- of corridor sections, access points, and estimated paddle times.
- Lack of amenities for tourists: bathrooms, campsites and outfitters.
- River is very meandering - it’s difficult to know where you are and how far along you are on a paddle trip.
- River is not advertised well - no one knows what to expect, difficulty, lengths of trips, etc.
- Access between downtowns and River needs improvement (i.e. signage, complete sidewalks).
- Lack of river access points and information about where those access points are.
- Perception that the River is always muddy and water quality is poor.
- Low railroad bridges that can be impossible to paddle under when the water gets too high (especially between LaValle and Reedsburg).

Opportunities

- Add additional access points, including along the Hillsboro and 400 Trails.
- Add more camp sites along the River, similar to the Kickapoo and Namekagon.
- FEMA funds from 2018 flooding could be used to improve recreation along River, stabilize shoreline, clear river, etc.
- River and associated streams are currently underused for fishing - trout streams are higher in the Watershed. The section included in Phase 2 is primarily warm water and is the region’s premier smallmouth bass river.
- Partnerships with local schools (OLA in Wonewoc, SOAC in Reedsburg).
- There are existing restrooms along the 400 trail that could be used by Baraboo River users.
- Make new and existing launches ADA compliant to help make the Baraboo River the most accessible River for paddling in the US.
- Host events that get people to the River (e.g. triathlon).
- Promote the unique history of the region (native burial ground, fur trading post, dam construction/removal) and of the individual communities (Native American Village in La Valle or Dode Fisk Circus in Wonewoc).
- Add a bike trail and/or hiking trail that connects more communities (e.g. Great Sauk Trail, Ice Age Trail)

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- Communities continue to work together to plan for resiliency after the 2018 flooding.
- Expand 'Strive On' app to cover the whole river.
- Pending designation as a National Water Trail.
- Partnerships with nearby universities. Many are already using the area for teaching/field trip opportunities.
- Club events could use the river for outdoor excursions.
- Name the stretches of river based on unique assets.
- Use the river to promote health and wellness. Local hospitals are excited to engage.
- Hunting along river, there are lots of ducks and other waterfowl.
- Opportunity for paddle/bike excursions.

Threats

- More frequent extreme flooding events due to changes in climate.
- If the River gets more traffic, there will be more pollution and River will become more crowded.
- It's challenging to do rescues on the River currently: lack of equipment, access points and it difficult to locate people since the river is so meandering and full of log jams.
- Erosion reduces water quality and reduces property owners' land.
- Private landowners are concerned about river users trespassing on their property.

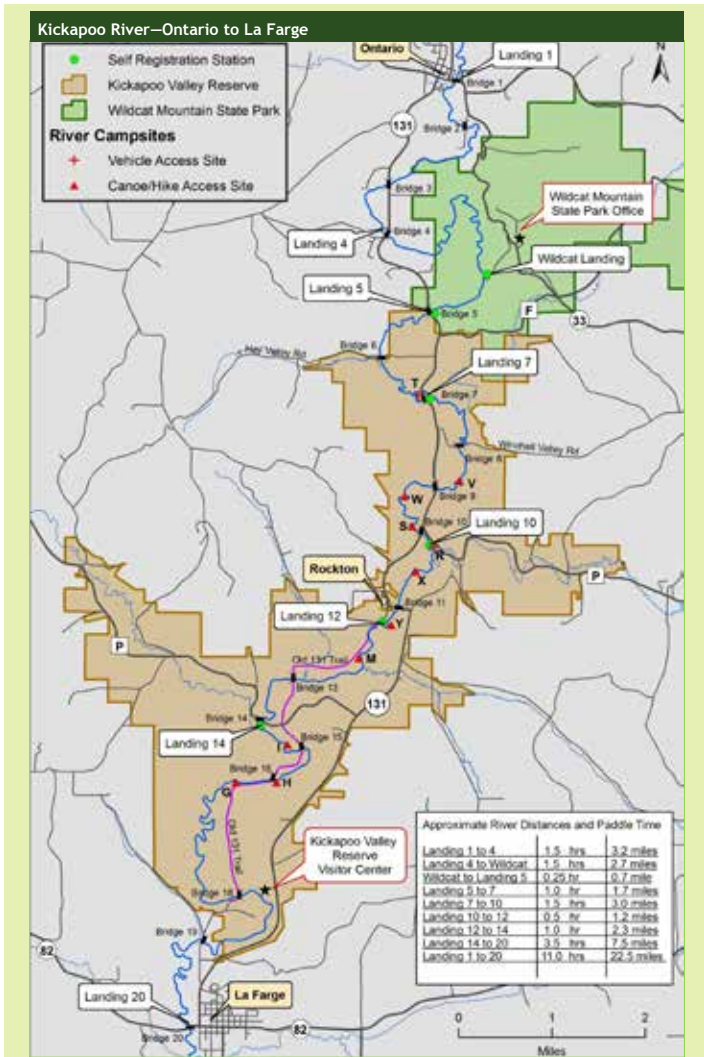
3.11 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

This section looks at the Kickapoo and Pine Rivers (in Richland Center) in terms of recreational use to see if there are any lessons that can be applied to the Baraboo River Corridor.

Kickapoo River

The Kickapoo River is one of the most popular (and crowded) places to canoe and kayak in Wisconsin. The River is 125 miles long and flows from Wilton to Wauzeka where it joins the Wisconsin River. The River is attractive to people because of its clean water, small sandbars, hilly countryside and bluffs. It is also a good river for beginners; the river is safe, well-serviced, scenic, has a medium current and offers on-river camping. The biggest issue with the Kickapoo is the high volume of people. With the high volume of people, the Kickapoo is often seen as a party river. For those seeking a more relaxed experience in nature, the volume of people detracts from the river's appeal. Based on all of the public input and community feedback we have received so far, the Baraboo River should avoid becoming a "party river". There are approximately eight paddle shops along the River and all the paddle shops work together to keep the River clear from log jams. The Phase II section of the Baraboo River currently has one paddle shop which divides its time keeping one section of the river clear and clearing parts of two other sections as possible. This equates to about 29 river miles between the three areas. As the Baraboo River becomes more of a paddle destination and gets more paddle shops, this model of paddle shops working together to keep the river clear is a model that could be replicated.

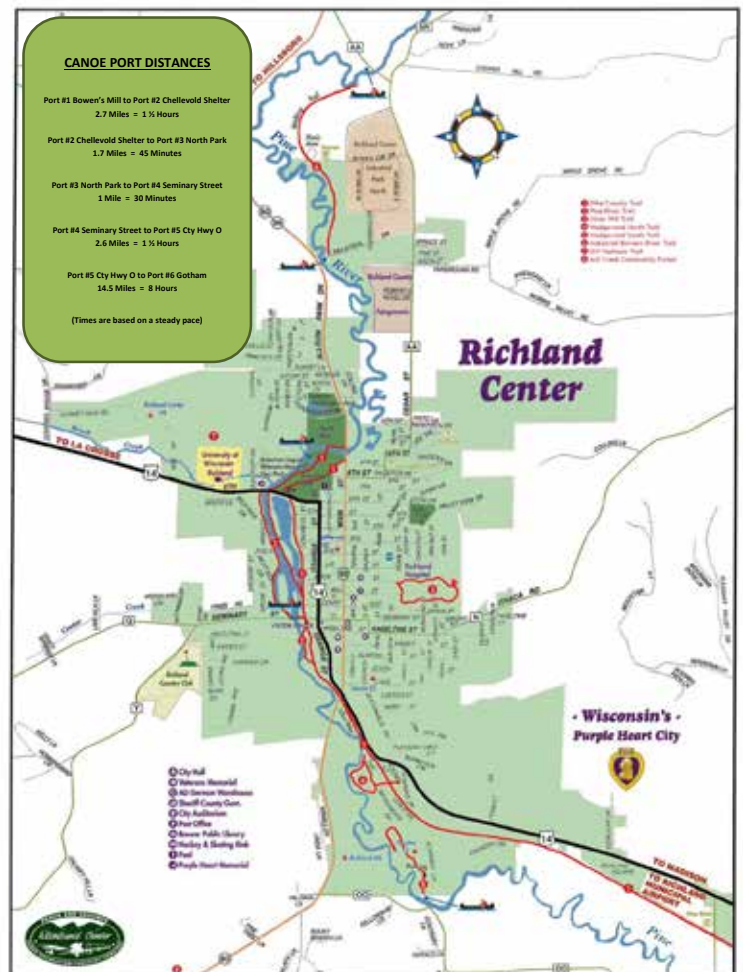




only six officially designated camping areas along the Phase II section. Additional campsites along the Baraboo River were a common need suggested by stakeholders.

Pine River

The Pine River is located between the Baraboo and Kickapoo Rivers. The Pine River is more similar to the Baraboo as it is narrow, meandering and it floods. It also has lots of fallen logs which makes the River challenging to navigate. In 2013 a paddle shop opened focusing on the section of river from Rockbridge to Richland Center, which gets occasional paddling traffic. The paddle shop attempts to keep the section from Rockbridge to Richland Center clear from log jams. Richland Center, and the surrounding area,



There are two major parks/natural areas along the Kickapoo: Wildcat Mountain State Park and the Kickapoo Valley Reserve. Wildcat Mountain State Park offers 25 miles of hiking, horseback riding and cross-country ski trails plus well-equipped camp sites. Kickapoo Valley Reserve is an 8,569-acre natural area between La Farge and Ontario that offers 25 miles of paved road for touring bikes, 24 miles of off-road trails for mountain bikes, 37 miles of equestrian trails and three hiking trails. The Reserve also offers camping. In total there are approximately twelve areas to camp between Ontario and La Farge. Additional campsites are needed along the Baraboo River as there are currently

INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

has six official ports, with paddling trips lasting between 30 minutes and eight hours. Between ports three and four in Richland there are Class 2 rapids, which make this section of the River more challenging to paddle, however there is enough public information about what to expect about each trip segment and sufficient launches available so that beginners can avoid this section. More information about paddling sections and access points was one of the most common recommendations from stakeholders for the Baraboo River. There are 29 total official and unofficial access points along the Pine River (21 miles). There are currently less than ten official and unofficial access points along the Phase II section of the Baraboo River (nearly 75 miles); additional access points are also needed for recreation and safety purposes.

Richland Center's current Electric Utility Superintendent, Dale Bender, has been heavily involved in planning, promotion, funding applications, and work coordination for many of the newest improvements along the Pine River. Similarly, a designated set of individuals or committee from each municipality within the Baraboo River Corridor should become project champions- representing their community

and working with others in the corridor on recreation improvements, promotion, and other coordination.

The Friends of the Pine River group exists to promote paddling on the River, keep the River clean and create informational signage for the River. The Friends of the Baraboo also exists to promote paddling the River and could also be the primary entity in charge of creating signage for the Phase II and Phase I sections of the River, to ensure consistency.

In 2018 Richland Center held its Inaugural Pine River Triathlon (Tri-Pi Challenge) to get people onto the River and do additional promotion of the River as a recreation corridor. This is another idea that could be applied to the Baraboo River; there need to be more events that incorporate the River. Currently, the Lazy Beaver Canoe and Kayak Race is the only river-focused event within the Phase II section of the corridor.

The Pine River includes 17 miles of Class II trout stream, and the remaining portion of the river is considered a warm water sport fishery, which is similar to the Baraboo River.



4

*Conceptual
Plans*

CONCEPTUAL PLANS

4.1 SITE-SPECIFIC CONCEPTUAL PLANS

Each municipality within the Baraboo River Corridor chose a site within (or just outside of) their community that will have strong catalytic potential to enhance recreation opportunities within the BRC. The sites include:

- E.O. Schultz Park (Elroy)
- E. Main Street (Hillsboro)
- Winchel Property (Union Center)
- Jodi Kay Busser Memorial Park (Rock Springs)
- N. River Street (La Valle)
- Blakeslee Property (Reedsburg)
- Lost District Canoe Landing (Wonewoc)

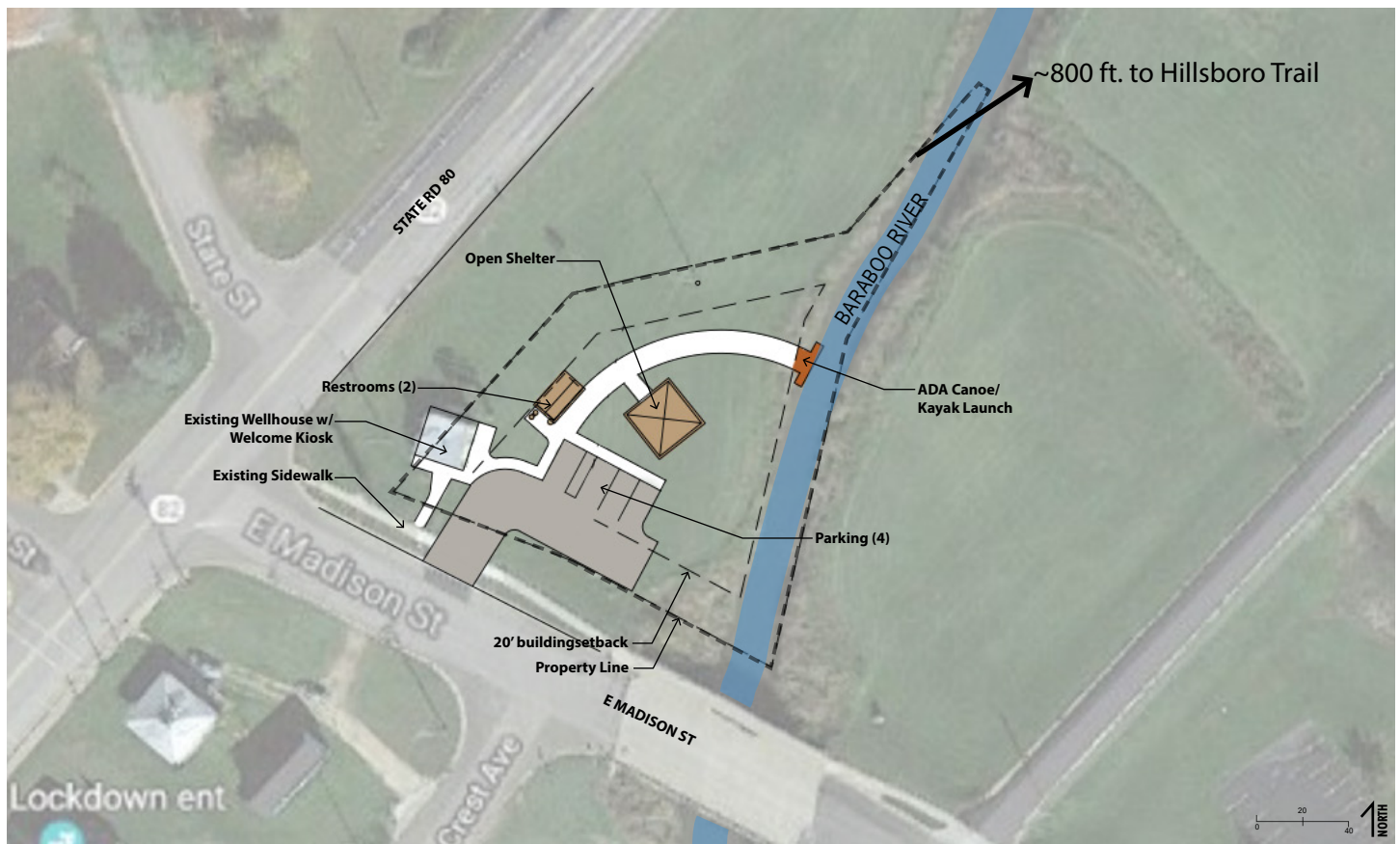
The following pages provide conceptual plans for each one

of these selected areas. These areas were selected because they improve access to paddling, make stretches easier to paddle and enhance existing launches. These concept plans should be used to aid in applying for funding and to build additional community support around the development of the BRC as a recreation destination.

E. Madison Street (Hillsboro)

The City currently does not have paddle access. The E. Madison Street site is approximately 0.5 acres and the current use of the property is a wellhouse and open space. The wellhouse provides an opportunity to be used as a welcome kiosk. The addition of an ADA canoe/kayak launch, parking, restrooms and a shelter will make the site accessible and provide a comfortable launch point for paddlers.

Figure 4.1 E. Madison Street Conceptual Design (Hillsboro)

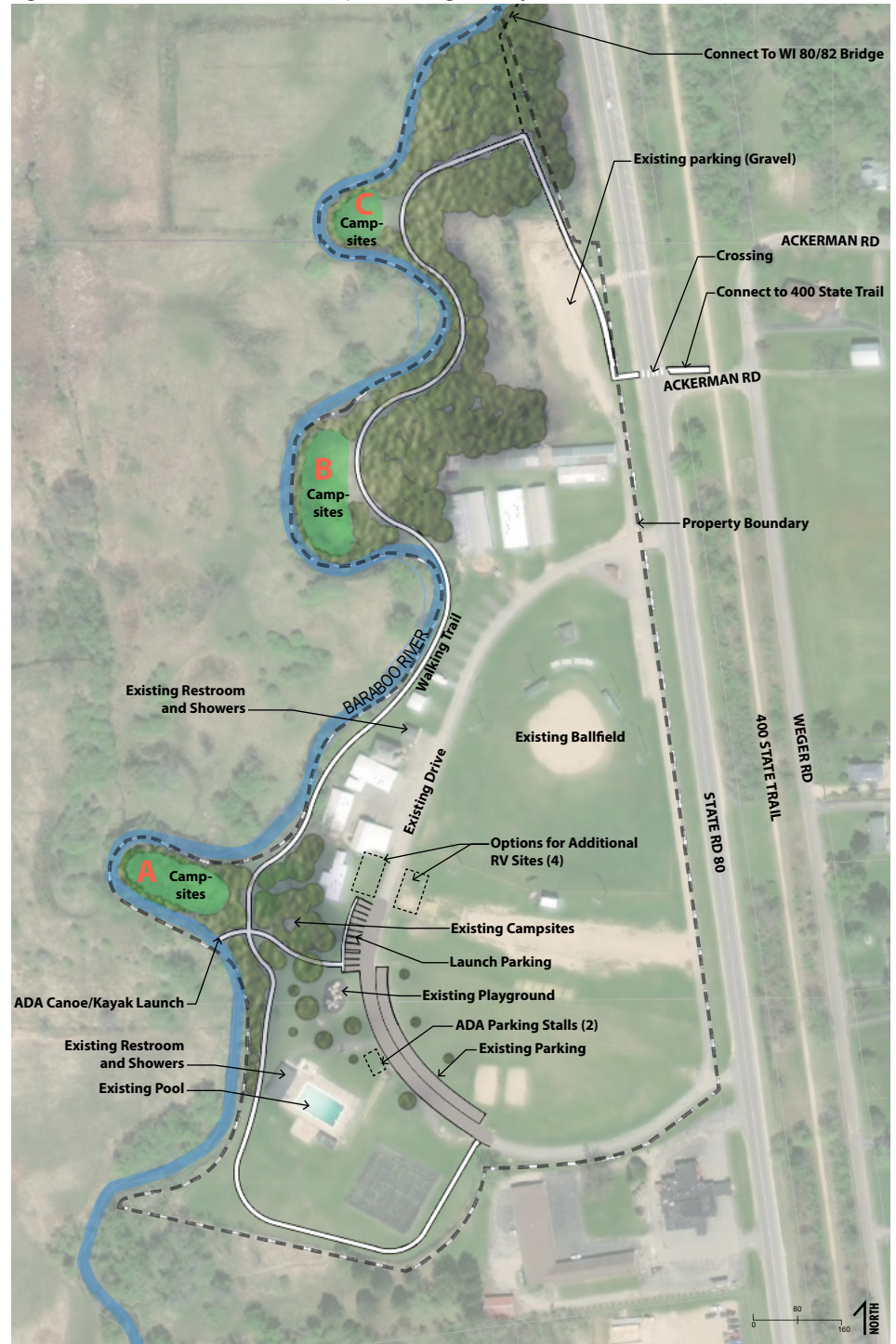


E.O. Schultz Park (Elroy)

E.O. Schultz Park (City Park) is a 28-acre park located in the south part of the City. Park amenities include a playground, picnic shelter, baseball fields, restrooms, RV camping and parking. There is also a swimming pool with changing and shower facilities. The adjacency of the River and the amenities that the park currently has are all ideal for a paddle launch site. Enhancing the park's existing amenities by providing tent camping, trail connections and an improved ADA canoe/kayak launch will provide an easy to use, amenity-rich launch site for paddlers.



Figure 4.2 E.O. Schultz Park Conceptual Design (Elroy)



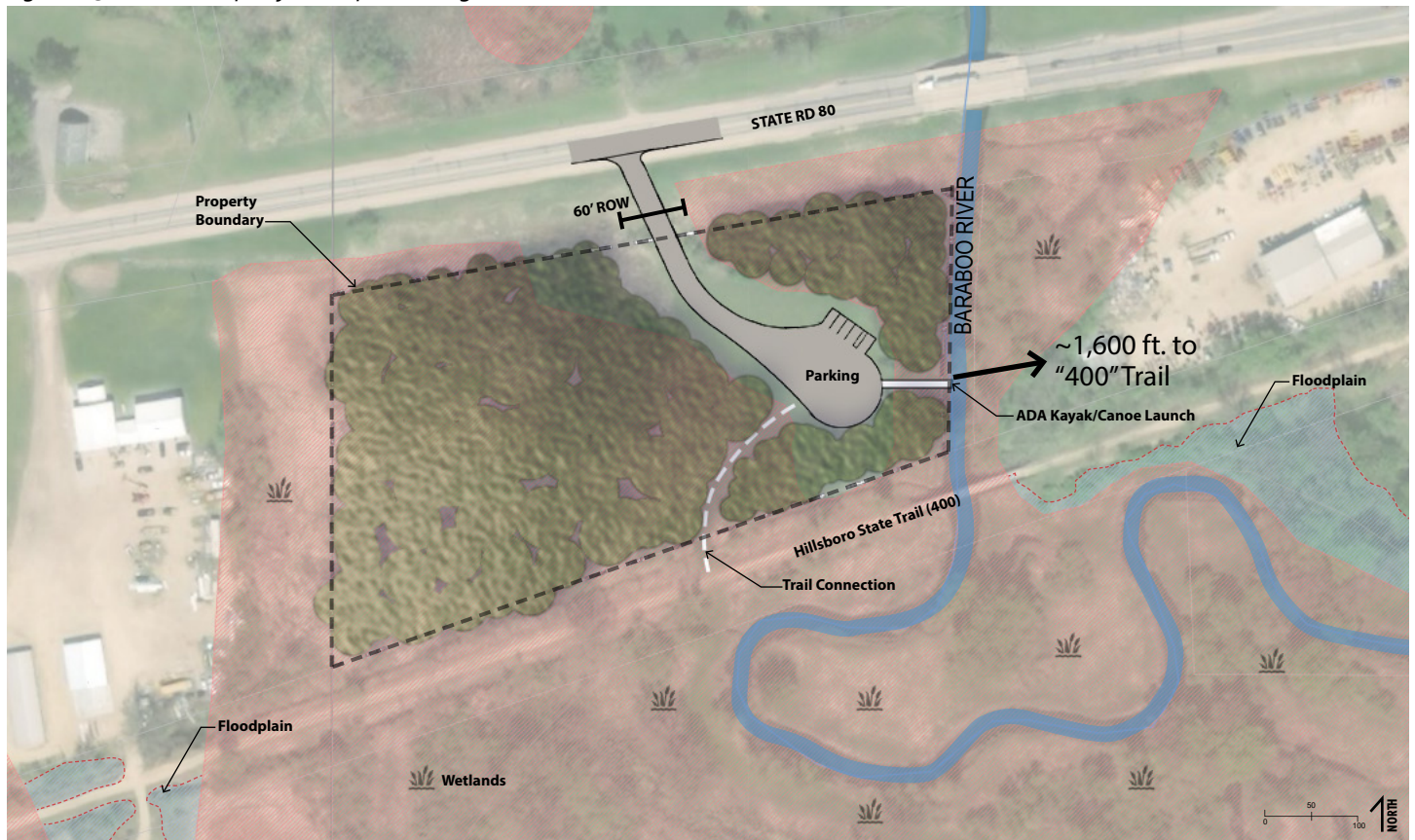
CONCEPTUAL PLANS

Winchel Property (Union Center)

Currently paddlers are pulling off on STH 80 and launching onto the Baraboo River from the Spring Valley Golf Course. The proposed new launch on the Winchel property is located on the other side of STH 80, across from the golf course. The Winchel property provides a safe place to park and unload/load for paddlers off of the adjacent highway. This side will also provide an ADA canoe/kayak launch.



Figure 4.3 Winchel Property Conceptual Design (Union Center)



Lost District Canoe Landing (Wonewoc)

The Lost District Canoe Landing is 1.7 acres, and is Wonewoc’s official launch point. The site currently provides the basic amenities a paddler would need (launch, port-a-potty, off-street parking, shelter). The existing launch is steep and not ADA accessible, an improved ADA launch would make the site easier to use for all. The addition of campsites would make this a place where people can stay overnight and spend additional time visiting area shops, restaurants, or hiking on the numerous nearby trails. During the planning process there was discussion that the current port-a-potty on the site isn’t emptied regularly. We suggest the addition of a permanent, flood-proof restroom facility. The improved site also includes an upgraded paved parking area and vehicle turnabout.



Figure 4.4 Lost District Canoe Landing Conceptual Design (Wonewoc)



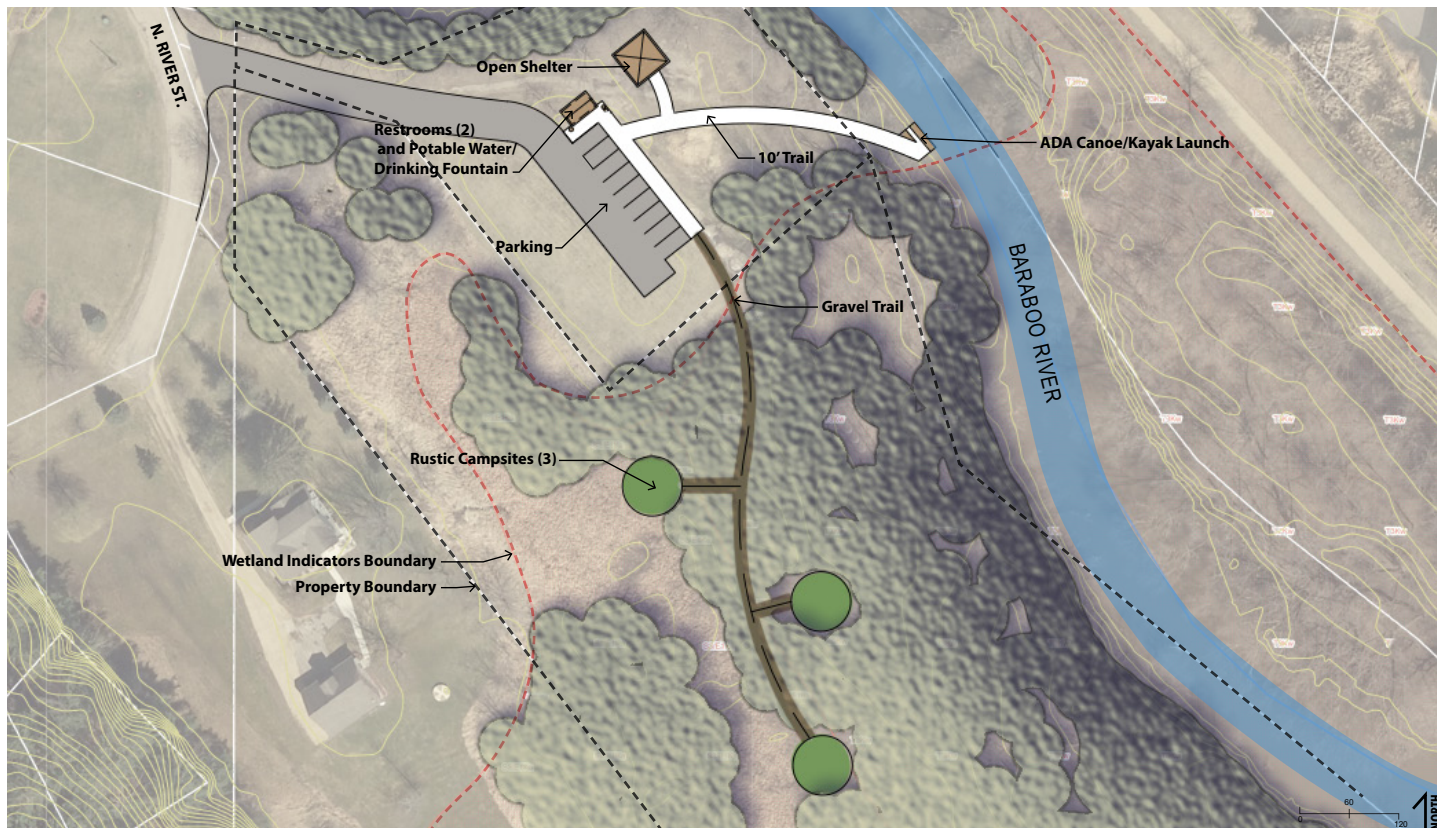
CONCEPTUAL PLANS

N. River St. /old swimming pool site (La Valle)

There is currently a public canoe/kayak launch at the end of W Main Street. The existing launch provides a location for people to get out of the river before the rapids under the Center Street bridge. The proposed ADA canoe/kayak launch will be just downstream and after the rapids. The proposed site will contain an ADA launch, picnic shelter, restrooms, parking lot and three campsites. The trail to the campsites will be gravel due to its location in floodplain.



Figure 4.5 Blakeslee's Landing Conceptual Design (Reedsburg)



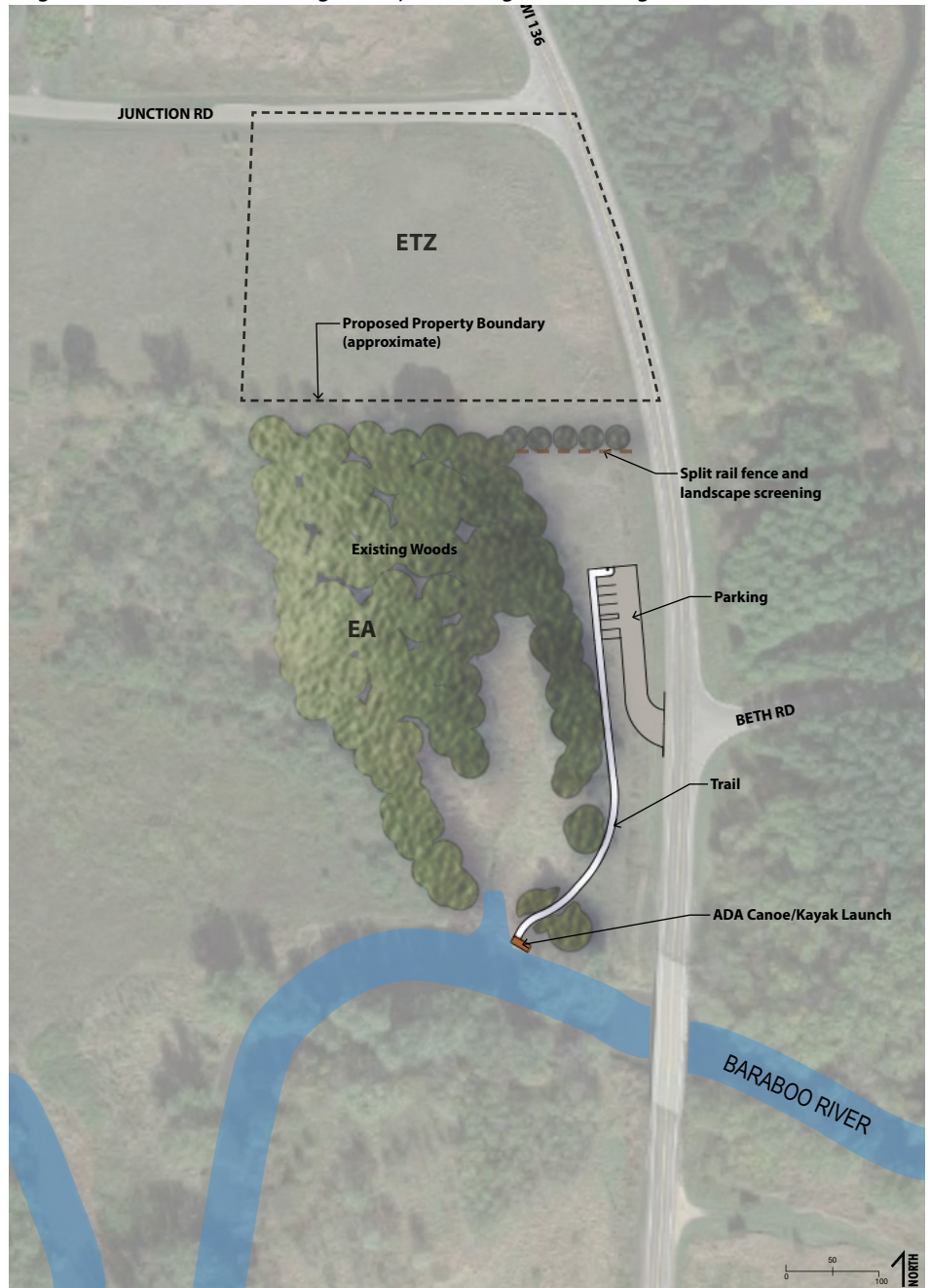
Blakeslee's Landing (Reedsburg)

Since the City currently has a recently improved launch within its limits, and the next landing down river isn't until Rock Springs, it was decided that the City's next launch would be outside municipal limits to give paddlers another stopping/starting point before Rock Springs. The Blakeslee site is currently under private ownership, however the owner is supportive of developing the BRC into a recreation destination and is willing to sell a portion of the parcel to the City for a canoe kayak launch. The City is currently undergoing discussions to purchase the property from the owner.

The launch site contains the basic amenities needed for paddlers: an ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch and parking area. Since the distance from the parking lot to the launch is approximately 300 feet, the City could consider installing a slide along the trail to help people drag their canoes/kayaks to the launch.



Figure 4.6 Blakeslee's Landing Conceptual Design (Reedsburg)



CONCEPTUAL PLANS

Jodie Kay Busser Memorial Park (Rock Springs)

The City's current launch is across the street from Firemen's Park. It contains a launch that is muddy and overgrown as well as some informal off-street parking. The proposed new launch site at Jodie Kay Busser Memorial Park is approximately two blocks north of this and is currently undeveloped. The site is approximately ten acres and currently has a small shelter and aging playground equipment. The updated site provides a full array of amenities for day or overnight visitors. The site features an ADA canoe/kayak launch, restrooms, two park shelters, a fishing pier, two new playground areas (one of which could be a nature-based playground), walking paths, and an area for camping.



Figure 4.7 Jodie Kay Busser Memorial Park Conceptual Design (Rock Springs)



5

Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CORRIDOR VISION

“Protect, restore and enhance the natural environment within the Baraboo River Corridor and focus on opportunities that will spur recreation, tourism and development to establish the region as THE premiere natural and scenic water recreation destination in south central Wisconsin.”
(modified from Phase I: BRCP)

5.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Make the Baraboo River Corridor an attractive, accessible and safe destination to increase its use by residents and visitors for recreation.
2. Improve the water quality of the Baraboo River.
3. Build partnerships to develop, implement and champion improvements throughout the Baraboo River Corridor.
4. Create a system of access points throughout the Baraboo River Corridor and associated tributaries for kayakers, canoers and fishers.
5. Preserve the corridor’s rural and local character.

(all from Phase I: BRCP)

5.3 OVERALL CORRIDOR POLICIES & ACTIONS

Operational Improvements Marketing

1. Develop promotional materials that can be used throughout the Corridor. Promotional materials should identify the natural , recreational and cultural resources; businesses; lodging ; existing kayak/canoe rental locations (Elroy, Wonewoc and Reedsburg) and photo-op/selfie locations located throughout the corridor.
 - Messaging priorities include promoting the best sites and trail segments (while working to close the gaps), including opportunities for paddle/bike excursions, highlight and expand

accessibility features, highlight the Driftless Area and support ATV use, in particular in Juneau County.

2. Work with the Friends of the Baraboo River to further develop the website and location-based mobile app for the corridor. Both should include a real-time map of river levels, alerts when it is unsafe to be on the river, input/takeout points, trip suggestions, historic information, etc.
3. Work with local tourism agencies to advertise existing local attractions and events and new attractions and events as they are developed.
4. All communities within the corridor should ensure their websites are up to date and that people visiting the websites are able to find a list of lodging, events, recreation activities and restaurants within the community.
5. Work with local Chambers of Commerce to submit information to the Wisconsin Department of Tourism regarding local restaurants, recreation activities and events to be posted on the state website.
6. Recommendations from the 2018 Branding & Marketing Study:
 - Work with all communities along the Baraboo River Corridor to develop branding and an accompanying strategy and communication system. The brand needs to communicate something about the geography and activities available. See study for name/tagline and logo suggestions.
 - All communities should consider starting social media accounts and post images of what makes their communities unique (e.g. restaurants, bluffs, trails). Also ensure outfitters and other businesses that cater to recreational users should have a social media presence.
 - Identify and improve photo opportunity sites in each community. Identify each location with a sign.
 - Outfitters should actively help people take photos at the beginning or end of their adventures with someone identifying the corridor in the pictures and encourage them to make a social media post.
 - Create a photo geofilter that can be used on

social media for people to post images while in the corridor.

- Sponsor an annual contest to recognize photos and videos that celebrate the natural beauty and recreation activities in the Corridor. Share on social media platforms.
- Develop and install four types of signage for the corridor: uniform wayfinding signs for river and trail access points; river identification signs; wayfinding signs for paddlers that identify bridges and other notable features; and signs at the north and south edges of the corridor that say “Entering the Baraboo River Recreation Corridor”. The term “recreation corridor” should be used because the area has many opportunities for recreation outside of the River including ATV-ing, hiking, biking, bird watching, etc. All signage should include National Water Trail designation

once designation is given.

- Cross-promote at Devil’s Lake State Park: install billboards along each of the main access routes to the park promoting paddling activities, purchase ads with search engines and social media platforms that come up when people search for Devil’s Lake State Park, and partner with local park advocates, such as Friends of Devil’s Lake State Park and the Devil’s Lake State Park Visitor Guide to provide information and links to Baraboo River corridor resources on their sites.

Public/Private Partnerships

1. Either:

- Create an advisory group for the Friends of the Baraboo River, or
- Build a River Partnership to include all municipalities adjacent to the Baraboo River and



July 21 2019 Log Jam Removal on Baraboo River

RECOMMENDATIONS

the Friends of the Baraboo River. Designate a “coordinator” between all of the partners involved in the effort who will commit to organizing meetings, marketing and ensuring the project maintains focus.

Whichever group structure goes forward, all partners should work together for planning, implementation and volunteer efforts in the Corridor. The group should also prepare an annual Capital Improvement Project Plan.

2. Hold community-wide events that focus on the River and/or are near the River.
3. Investigate opportunities for educational and exploratory programming to expand curriculum that focuses on the diversity of the area and the potential to create outdoor classrooms and monitoring stations within the corridor (e.g. Wonewoc-Union Center School District Outdoor Learning Area).
4. Once Friends of the Baraboo River purchases equipment to clear log jams, communities should identify staff, work with the counties and/or partner with community organizations to go out and clear log jams at least once per year.
5. Partner with local and surrounding universities/ colleges as many are already using the area’s

geology for teaching/field opportunities.

6. Partner with clubs and organizations to use the river for an outdoor excursion. These events are typically open to the public and may help target a younger demographic.
7. Consider creating a public trust doctrine to explain how the river can be cleared and who owns the timber.

Funding

1. Investigate funding opportunities for planning, design and construction of future improvements. Sources of potential funding include the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, private donors, Economic Development groups and local hospitals/ clinics.
2. Establish a corporate and individual donation program.
3. Identify local businesses for support, sponsorship and volunteer efforts.
4. Apply for the Army Corps of Engineers’ Silver Jacket program in March 2019. If the application is accepted, this will provide a cost benefit analysis of how flood mitigation improvement upstream would impact downstream along the Phase I and Phase II portions of the Baraboo River Corridor.
5. Work with the Friends of the Baraboo River on funding for various projects/events.
6. Each community should create a Baraboo River Recreational Corridor Improvement Fund.

LAND AND DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENTS

1. Recruit new businesses or expand existing ones to fill gaps in goods and services that trail users need and use.
 - Develop paddle up restaurant(s) along the corridor.
2. Each municipality should pay attention to properties that will further the goals and objectives of this plan by obtaining land either through purchase or easement for recreational and capital improvements that benefit the corridor.
3. Taper sideslopes along the river to reduce erosion.
4. Establish guidelines and environmental standards for new development locating along the Baraboo



Students at the Outdoor Learning Area in Wonewoc

River Corridor so that it does not interfere with river access, viewsheds or have a negative impact on the environment. Consider restricting new development in some locations along the Corridor.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Parks, Trails and Riverwalk

1. Integrate public art, historical markers and interpretive signage into the corridor along designated routes that celebrates the rich history of the River.
2. Identify and install designated fishing areas along the River.
3. Connect to existing trails to provide multi-modal opportunities to, from and within the corridor.
4. Improve existing launches and create new canoe/kayak launches that are easy to use, provide additional parking options and are ADA accessible. Make sure that each access point is equipped with adequate parking and staging areas as well as clearly identified trash and recycling receptacles.
5. At all formal launch sites along the River provide information about the River Corridor, including a map of the overall corridor, approximate paddle times, paddling difficulty, amenities along the route, and environmental and historic information.
6. Establish trail connections and directional wayfinding signage between the River and each community.
7. Each community should create or update its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). A CORP is required if a community wishes to apply for Stewardship funding. The CORP will also provide an evaluation of existing park amenities that will help prioritize maintenance, repairs and replacement of park amenities.

Best Management Practices

1. Increase native vegetation along the River to improve water quality and decrease shoreline erosion.
2. Use best management practices to filter stormwater before it reaches the River.
3. Promote best management practices to existing

businesses and property owners along the Baraboo River.

4. Communicate the importance to landowners of keeping farm animals out of River and maintaining a buffer between the River and cropland/fields.
5. Develop fish habitat in Elroy section and north - trout habitat development.
6. Consider developing flood water capacity/storage within the watershed.
7. Monitor the River area and inform DNR of instances where enforcement actions should be investigated.
8. Promote USDA-NRCS programs which offer financial and technical assistance to reduce runoff into the River. <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/landconservation/usda-nrccs-programs>

5.4 COMMUNITY SPECIFIC ACTIONS

Actions each community should take are briefly described below. Tables outlining specific action items with corresponding maps for each community can be found in Chapter 6.

Hillsboro

Hillsboro should install an ADA canoe/kayak launch at the well house property on East Madison Street (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). Once this access is installed, the City should install additional access points and campsites along the river. Other recommendations include adding a trail connection between the launch sites, other recreation amenities, downtown restaurants, and the proposed Gundersen Lutheran trail; improvements to Field Veterans Memorial Park; and adding kiosks at launch sites and other strategic locations with information related to the river.

Elroy

Elroy should upgrade its existing launch to an ADA accessible launch and add additional amenities to E.O. Schultz Park (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). The City should provide a trail connection from E.O Schultz Park to the 400 Trail and to downtown. Other recommendations include installing additional launches and adding kiosks with information related to the river.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Union Center

Union Center should work with the current property owner to add an ADA canoe/kayak launch to the Winchel property (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). Other possibilities should be explored for additional launches between Union Center and La Valle. The Village should consider adding more campsites within the community as well as promoting existing accommodations. Signage promoting the Baraboo River is needed at the intersection of WIS 82/80/33 and at launch sites.

Wonewoc

Wonewoc should install an ADA canoe/kayak launch at the existing Lost District Canoe Landing as well as other improvements (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). The Village should also work with the surrounding towns and the Wonewoc-Union Center School District to install additional launches. The Village needs sidewalk repair between the Lost District Canoe Landing and downtown as well as signage and other aesthetic improvements along this stretch. The Wonewoc Fire Department also needs appropriate equipment for river rescues.

La Valle

La Valle should install an ADA canoe/kayak launch at the old pool site, south of the Center Street bridge (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). Near the bridge, the Village should also remove or reposition rocks at the rapids to make the passage safe and enjoyable for all users. A multi-use trail should be developed along the River to connect the launch points, 400 trail and downtown restaurants.

Reedsburg

Reedsburg should complete purchase of the Blakeslee property on HWY 136 and install an ADA canoe/kayak launch (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). The City should also consider additional launches and campsites within the community. Riverwalk should be added between Smith Conservancy and Popple Nature Trails, as well as an offshoot trail that connects to downtown restaurants, shops and the bike and kayak rental shop. The City should also identify business opportunities in the area for canoe rental, restaurants and other water recreation oriented enterprises.

Rock Springs

Rock Springs should improve Jodi Kay Busser Memorial Park (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). The Village should also formalize the existing launch across from Firemen's Park and install a riverwalk that connects from Van Hise Rock to the southern municipal boundary of Rock Springs.

Sauk County

Sauk County should add paddle access to several locations to break up the paddle sections between the municipalities.

Juneau County

Juneau County should add paddle access to several locations to break up the paddle sections between the municipalities.



Example Kiosk in Cartersville, GA

6

Implementation

IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter summarizes tools and mechanisms that the City can use to fund implementation of the recommendations discussed in Chapter 5, and provides an implementation plan which includes prioritization and estimated costs to be used for budgeting purposes. The cost estimates will need further investigation to reflect site specific details.

6.1 TOOLS AND MECHANISMS TO FUND IMPLEMENTATION

Maintenance and operational expenses of the Corridor's Parks and Open Space is generally funded through property taxes and user fees. As the park systems within the corridor grow, the need to increase funding to meet the basic maintenance and operational costs also grows. Often there are insufficient funds to undertake major capital improvement projects. There are a wide variety of potential funding sources to assist with up-front capital costs, including acquisition of land and the development of new recreational facilities.

Grant Programs

An important source of funding is grant programs offered by state and federal agencies, especially the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Table 5.1 provides a summary of common state and federal park and recreation grant programs. The table is not an exhaustive list of grant programs, rather those that are typically used by municipalities. Other grant programs may exist and information regarding funding details shown in Table 5.1 should be verified with grant providers prior to seeking grant funding.

Community Fund-raising & Volunteer Groups

Community groups and civic organizations are sometimes willing to organize fundraising efforts to assist with these costs, and they may also be able to marshal volunteer labor to assist with small development projects such as trail creation or playground installations. The Friends of the Baraboo River should continue to fundraise and seek volunteers for river maintenance and promotion. Local business and corporate support should also be sought. Both non-profit and for-profit organizations can be rewarded for

their support with acknowledgment on a plaque or sign at the site.

501(c)3 Foundation

Communities can set up an endowment fund as an additional means of providing continual financial support for park acquisition and development. An endowment fund works like a permanent savings account. The amount individuals give, which is the principal, is never spent. Only the interest income is spent, thereby providing a continual source of monies. A park endowment fund can provide a means for residents to either bequeath money or provide ongoing donations to the City's park system, with the certainty that the money donated will only be used for the advancement of recreation in the community. Gifts to an endowment fund are typically tax deductible under federal and state law.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

As part of a broader plan to redevelop an area, the communities can use tax increment financing to assist with parkland acquisition and development. There are some limitations to what revenues from a TIF district can be used to pay for, generally the costs of constructing public buildings can not be funded with TIF.

Under State Statute 66.1105 a municipality can use tax increment to complete public improvements within a 0.5-mile radius of a TID, so long as the use of the funds supports and benefits the TID.

6.2 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Table 6.2 lists improvements which the communities wish to accomplish, estimated costs to be used for budgeting purposes and those items considered high priority are noted. High priority items should be completed within the next five years.

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Boat Enforcement Patrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detecting and investigating alleged boating law violations • Enforcing state and local ordinances 	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.2 million to \$1.4 million • Shared with all participating patrols 	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued to Wisconsin counties and municipalities that participate in boating enforcement efforts. • Must have a lake of at least 100 acres in size, determined by the current Department lake survey; or, • At least one mile of river within the jurisdiction of the unit of government. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/BoatPatrols.html
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being immediately available to perform search and rescue missions for individuals reasonably believed to be alive, in distress, and in a life threatening situation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 75% reimbursement 		
C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting small-scale habitat restoration projects • Education and outreach programs about Wisconsin's natural resources 	Various	• Up to \$1,000	1:1 basis (including in-kind services or donation) twice per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be tax-exempt 501(c)(3), public or private school, or government agency. • Grants are not awarded to projects with a total project budget greater than \$10,000. • Website: http://www.wisconsin-conservation-grants.org/how-we-work/c-d-besadny-conservation-grants/
Natural Resources Foundation					
Club Fostered Stewardship Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing heavy debris and trash from rivers and bays • Improving access for local paddlers 	February annually	• \$100-\$1,000	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible organizations include canoe clubs and conservation organizations. • Applications that outline how funding will be acknowledged (i.e., press releases; websites and social media sites; newsletters; using the ACA/ L.L. Bean logo on advertisements, signage, printed materials, etc.) have an increased chance of being funded. • Website: http://www.americancanoe.org/?page=LLBean_CFS_Grant
American Canoe Association/L.L. Bean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing water trails • Monitoring water quality • Removing environmentally-sensitive woody debris • Restoring and improving riparian buffer • Environmental education and outreach programs 				

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Five Star Restoration Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological improvements including: wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration • Wildlife conservation • Enhancing community tree canopy • Water quality monitoring and storm water management • Targeted community outreach, education and stewardship 	Annually in January	• \$20,000 to \$50,000 (average \$30,000)	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic focus depends on funding available from the funding partners. • Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes and educational institutions. • Website: http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2016RFP.aspx
John C. Bock Foundation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserving and protecting landscapes containing mature woodlands or old growth forest 	May 31st annually	• Variable	Variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims at public education, particularly of builders and developers, about the conservation of woodlands. • Website: http://www.bockfoundation.org/bock/default.htm
John C. Bock Foundation					
Joint Effort Marketing (JEM) Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mail marketing, print and broadcast ads, direct mail, publicity, and billboards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First of the month August, November, February and April 	• Up to \$39,550	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimburses Wisconsin non-profit organizations for qualified advertising costs to make a promotion or event come to fruition. • Applications must be submitted at least 90 days prior to the first day of advertising that will be paid using the grant funds; for example, if your first JEM funded ad runs on November 1, your application should be submitted by August 1. • Website: http://industry.travelwisconsin.com/grants/joint-effort-marketing-jem-grant-program
Wisconsin Department of Tourism					

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program WDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land/easement acquisition for local parks • Development projects for nature-based outdoor recreation 	May 1st annually	• No limit	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide umbrella program for Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space (UGS) grants, Urban Rivers (UR) grants, and Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR). Community must have an up-to-date Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/grants/Index.html
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) WDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisition • Developing outdoor recreation facilities, including active sports facilities 	May 1st annually	• No limit	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants apply for LWCF grants through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/LWCF.html
Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) WDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving or creating habitat for native plants and wildlife • Providing technical help to improve property, which helps wildlife and plant species, especially rare species 	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$25,000 • Most awards fall between \$3,000-\$8,000 	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps private landowners create and manage habitat for species that are rare or declining. • Provides management advice, assistance with management plans and cost-share funding to individuals and organizations proposing projects on private lands throughout Wisconsin. • LIP is a cost-share program and DNR can reimburse a landowner for up to 75% of the cost for the on-the-ground practices that are involved in the management of the project. The landowner is required to contribute the matching percentage. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/endangeredresources/lip.html
Municipal Flood Control Program WDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property acquisition and removal of structures to improve water storage • Flood-proofing and detention ponds • Flood mapping 	Mid-March annually	• Various award amounts	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for grant award payment reimbursement, the applicant shall obtain all necessary permits and approvals for the project. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/MunFloodControl.html

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program	• Long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands	• Cycle 1: February annually	• \$100,000 for small projects	50%	• Applicants submit project proposals to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird Habitat Conservation for either of the program's two funding cycles per year.
	• Habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds	• Cycle 2: July annually			• Website: http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act.php
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service					
Recreational Boating Facilities (RBF)	• Installation of new and reconstruction of ramps, boarding docks, and support facilities	• Open Application (Typically May 1st)	• No limit	50%	• Must make presentation to the appointed Waterways Commission.
	• Improvement and repair of docks	• Commission considers applications twice per year			• Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/RBF.html
WDNR	• Dredging				
	• Trash skimming equipment				
	• Navigation aids				
	• Weed harvesting equipment				
	• Feasibility studies				
Recreational Trails Aids (RTA) Program	• Maintaining or restoring existing trails	May 1st annually	• \$45,000 annually	50%	• Federal funds are awarded through the WDNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.
	• Developing or rehabilitating trailside/trailhead facilities and trail linkages		• \$200,000 every third year		• Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/rta.html
WDNR	• Constructing new trails				
	• Acquiring property for trails				
Sport Fish Restoration (SFR)	• Constructing and renovating a new boat ramp	February 1st annually	• No limit	50%	• Projects that have received funding from other federal grants are not eligible to receive SFR grant funding.
	• Developing and renovating parking lots				• Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/SFR.html
WDNR	• Developing accessible paths				
	• Lighting and restroom facilities				
	• Channel dredging and feasibility studies				
	• Fishing Piers				

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Surface Water Grants: Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing and controlling the spread of aquatic invasive species • Education, Prevention and Planning Projects (including Clean Boats Clean Waters) • Early Detection and Response Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIS Education, Prevention and Planning: December 10th annually • Established Population Control: February 1st annually • Research and Development: year-round • Early Detection and Response: year-round 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Prevention and Planning projects: \$150,000 • Early Detection and Response projects: \$20,000 • Established Population Control projects: \$200,000 • Maintenance and Containment permit fee reimbursement • Research and Development: annual funding limit of \$500,000 	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded through DNR Surface Water Grants Program. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/SurfaceWater.html
	WDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established Population Control Projects • Maintenance and Containment Projects • Research and Demonstration Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Classification and Ordinance Development: December 10th annually • Lake Protection: February 1st annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification: \$50,000 • Protection: \$200,000 	25%
Surface Water Grants: Lake Classification and Lake Protection Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and implementing local land and water management programs targeted to specific classes of lakes in response to various development and recreational use pressures • Improving or protecting the quality of water in lakes or the quality of natural ecosystems • Implementing protection activities for the lakes based on their classification • Implementing the recommendations of a lake management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Classification and Ordinance Development: December 10th annually • Lake Protection: February 1st annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification: \$50,000 • Protection: \$200,000 	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded through DNR Surface Water Grants Program. • Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/SurfaceWater.html
WDNR					

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Surface Water Grants: Lake Management and Small Scale Lakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting and analyzing information needed to protect and restore lakes and their watersheds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 10th annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small scale projects: \$3,000 Large scale projects: \$25,000 	33%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for local governments and tribes. Awarded through DNR Surface Water Grants Program. Website: http://dhr.wi.gov/Aid/SurfaceWater.html
WDNR					
Surface Water Grants-River Protection Planning & River Protection Management Grants	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting in the formation and/or strengthening of qualified river management organization Protecting or improving rivers and their ecosystems River improvement education projects <p>Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments and plan development Purchasing land or conservation easements Developing local ordinances Installing nonpoint source pollution control practices River restoration activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Protection Planning: December 10th annually River Protection Management: February 1st annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning: \$10,000 Management: \$50,000 	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded through DNR Surface Water Grants Program. Website: http://dhr.wi.gov/Aid/SurfaceWater.html
WDNR					
Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reimbursing agriculture or urban nonpoint source pollution control in targeted, critical geographic areas with surface water or groundwater quality concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 15th annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large-scale: \$1 million Small-scale: \$150,000 	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive grants for local governments. Cities, villages, towns, counties, regional planning commissions, tribal governments and special purpose lake, sewerage and sanitary districts may apply. Website: http://dhr.wi.gov/Aid/TargetedRunoff.html
WDNR					
Tax Increment Finance (TIF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land acquisition, park infrastructure, trail development Cannot be used for constructing recreation and community buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption must be completed by September 30th of each year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a grant program 	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a grant program but an economic development financing tool. Local municipality creates Tax Increment District (TID). 100% of tax increment growth returned to the TID for a set period of time, usually 20 or 27 years. Website: https://www.revenue.wi.gov/sif/tif.html
Wisconsin Department of Revenue					

Table 6.1 Funding Opportunities

Funding Program & Agency	Eligible Activities	Application Deadline	Grant Award Limit	Local Match Required	Additional Comments
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists Other non-motorized forms of transportation Associated streetscaping 	November (even-numbered years)	No limit	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAP incorporates the following three WisDOT multi-modal transportation improvement programs: Safe Routes to School (SRTS); Transportation Enhancements (TE); and The Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program (BFPF). Website: http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/tap.aspx
	Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)				
Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Controlling urban nonpoint source and storm water runoff pollution 	April 15 annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction: \$150,000 Additional \$50,000 may be requested for property acquisition 	Planning: 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive grants to local governments to reimburse costs of planning or construction. The local government must have either jurisdiction over the project area or be required to control storm water discharge with an inter-governmental agreement between the municipality and WDNR. Eligible areas are urban lands with population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile or non-permitted commercial or municipally-owned industrial use. Projects may be in areas that are expected to become urban within 20 years. Website: http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/UrbanNonpoint.html
WDNR					

Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Hillsboro

Capital Improvements			High Priority
E. Madison St. Launch (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt parking lot (~3,800 SF) Concrete sidewalk (~2,500 SF) Restroom (prefabricated) Open shelter ADA launch Drinking Fountain Site Furnishings Welcome kiosk (facade upgrades to Wellhouse) 	<p>\$15,000</p> <p>\$12,500</p> <p>\$100,000</p> <p>\$25,000</p> <p>\$37,500</p> <p>\$8,000</p> <p>\$4,000</p> <p>\$10,000</p>	X
		Total Cost: \$286,200 <i>(includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)</i>	
Additional Paddle Access	Add ADA paddle access near the dam (1).		
		Total Cost: \$55,000	
Campsites	Install campsites near the dam and on the lake (3).		
		Total Cost: \$15,000	
Bicycle Bridge	Add a bicycle bridge at location of remnants of existing railroad bridge (150 LF).		
		Total Cost: \$400,000	
Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add trail connection between launch sites, other recreation amenities and downtown restaurants (2,300 LF) (excludes existing sidewalk). 		
		Total Cost: \$75,000	
Signage	Include kiosks at launch sites and at other nearby recreation amenities with historic and environmental information related to the River (5).		X
		Total Cost: \$6,000	
Hillsboro Lake Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add trail connection between City Park and Hillsboro trail (4,000 LF) (excludes proposed Gundersen Lutheran public trail) Add gazebo to City Park Add Hammock Park to Field Veterans Memorial (FVM) Upgrade existing fishing pier and add kayak launch at FVM 	<p>\$135,000</p> <p>\$20,000</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>\$75,000</p>	X
		Total Cost: \$230,000	
Land & Development			
Easements	Obtain easements to follow the abandoned rail line along the West Branch of the Baraboo River and pass through the south side of the Cenex Co-op property.		
		Total Cost: N/A	

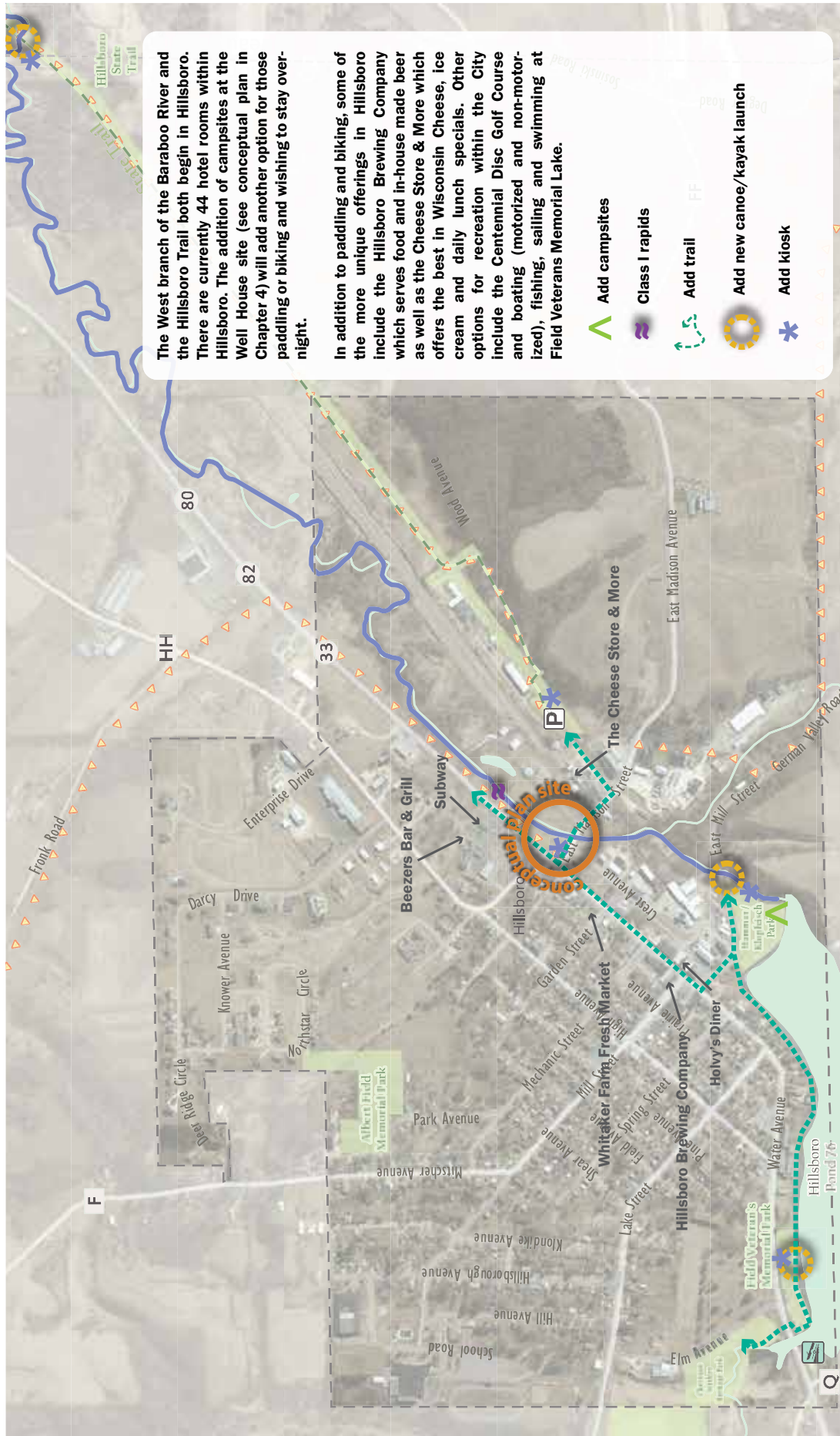


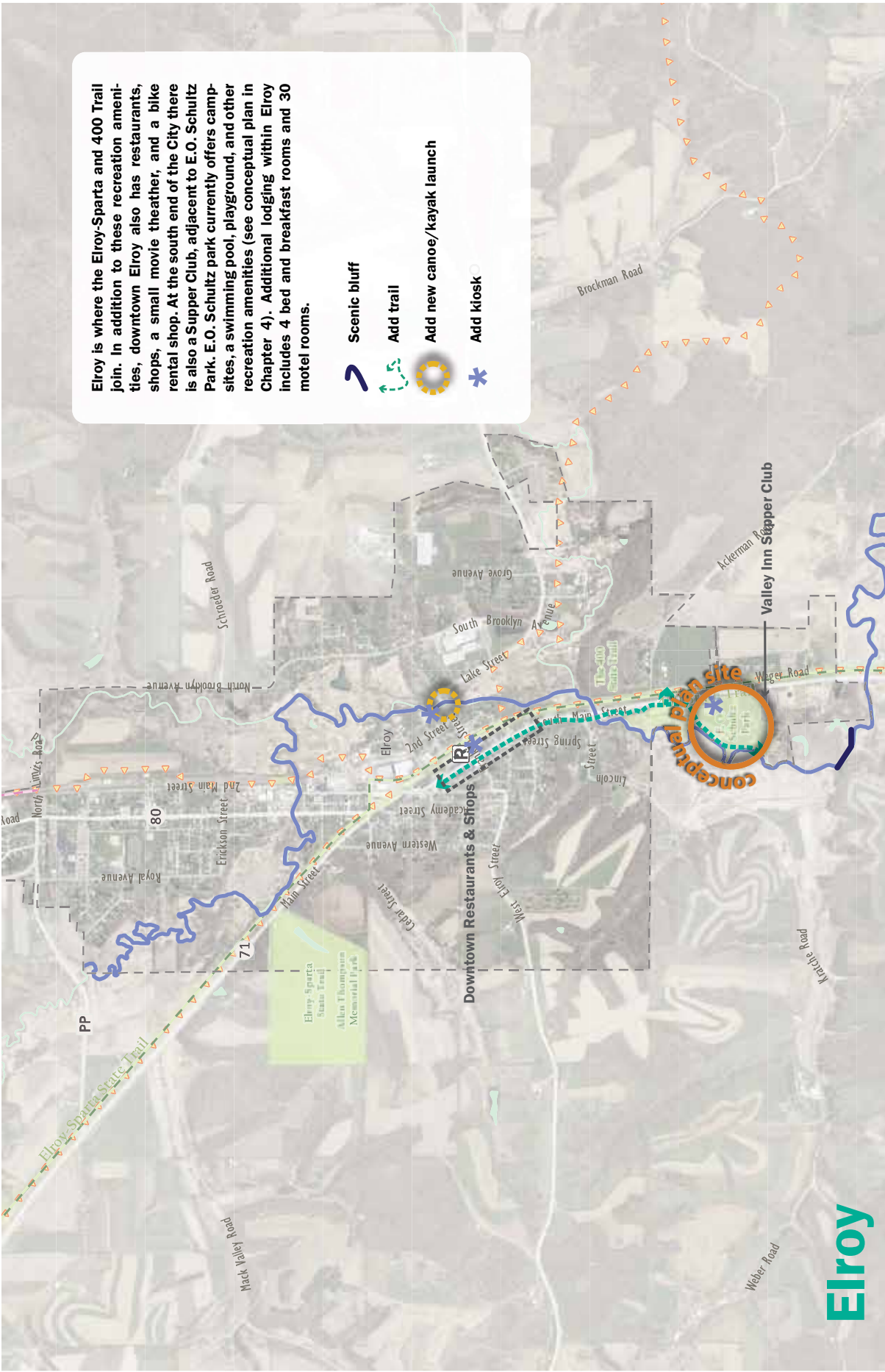
Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Elroy

Capital Improvements			High Priority
E.O. Schultz Park Launch (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	• Asphalt walking trail (2,900 LF x 10' wide)	\$90,000	X
	• ADA launch	\$20,000	
	• Asphalt trail to ADA launch (250 LF x 10' wide)	\$7,500	
	• Launch parking	\$15,000	
	• Additional pool parking (2 ADA stalls)	\$3,000	
	• Campsites (3)	\$12,000	
	• RV Campsites (4)	\$16,000	
		Total Cost: \$199,125 (includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)	
Additional Paddle Access	Add ADA paddle access near intersection of Lake and Franklin Streets (banks are steep, includes sidewalk access).		
		Total Cost: \$80,000	
Campsites	Locate additional camping locations in the community (at least one site with three campsites).		
		Total Cost: \$15,000	
Bicycle Bridge	Make bicycle trail bridge more visible near WIS 80.		
		Total Cost: \$7,500	
Signage	Include kiosks at launch sites and downtown with historic and environmental information related to the River (3).		X
		Total Cost: \$4,000	

Elroy is where the Elroy-Sparta and 400 Trail join. In addition to these recreation amenities, downtown Elroy also has restaurants, shops, a small movie theater, and a bike rental shop. At the south end of the City there is also a Supper Club, adjacent to E.O. Schultz Park. E.O. Schultz park currently offers campsites, a swimming pool, playground, and other recreation amenities (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). Additional lodging within Elroy includes 4 bed and breakfast rooms and 30 motel rooms.

-  Scenic bluff
-  Add trail
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk



Elroy






Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Union Center

Capital Improvements			High Priority
Winchel Property Launch (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt parking lot and turn around (17,000 SF) Concrete sidewalk (600 SF) ADA launch Trail connection (to 400 State Trail) (Alternate - Gravel Parking/Turn Around) 	<p>\$51,000</p> <p>\$3,000</p> <p>\$60,000</p> <p>\$5,000</p> <p>(\$25,000)</p>	X
		Total Cost: \$160,650	
		<i>(includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)</i>	
<hr/>			
Additional Paddle Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore possibilities for additional canoe/kayak launches between Union Center and la Valle. Explore possibility of clearing out some of the wooded area on the Legion property to make the bluff view more pronounced. 		
		Total Cost: N/A	
<hr/>			
Campsites	Consider adding three-site campsites to the following: Union Center Park/Eagle Parkway, City-owned field behind sewer plant, or land the Land-O-Lakes offered to sell Village. May also need to obtain access easements (not included in cost)		
		Total Cost: \$15,000	
<hr/>			
Trails	Add a signed trail connection between all ADA canoe/kayak launches and the Golf Course, Holy Cow, Center Tap and Village Hall (5,800 LF).		
		Total Cost: \$175,000 (paved)	
		\$100,000 (unpaved)	
<hr/>			
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add signage promoting the Baraboo River Corridor at the intersection of WIS 82/80/33. Include kiosks at launch sites with historic and environmental information related to the River (4). 		X
		Total Cost: \$6,000	
<hr/>			
Bridge at Bottom Road	Add bridge at Bottom Road to connect to "400" Trail.		
		Total Cost: \$600,000	
<hr/>			

Union Center is where the West and Main branches of the Baraboo join and also where the 400 and Hillsboro Trails join. Another major recreation site within Union Center is the nine hole Spring Valley Golf Course. The course also offers food.

There is currently one motel in Union Center. Adding capsites near the intersection of the 400 and Hillsboro Trails would give another option for bikers and paddlers.

-  Add campsites
-  Add restrooms
-  Add Trail
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

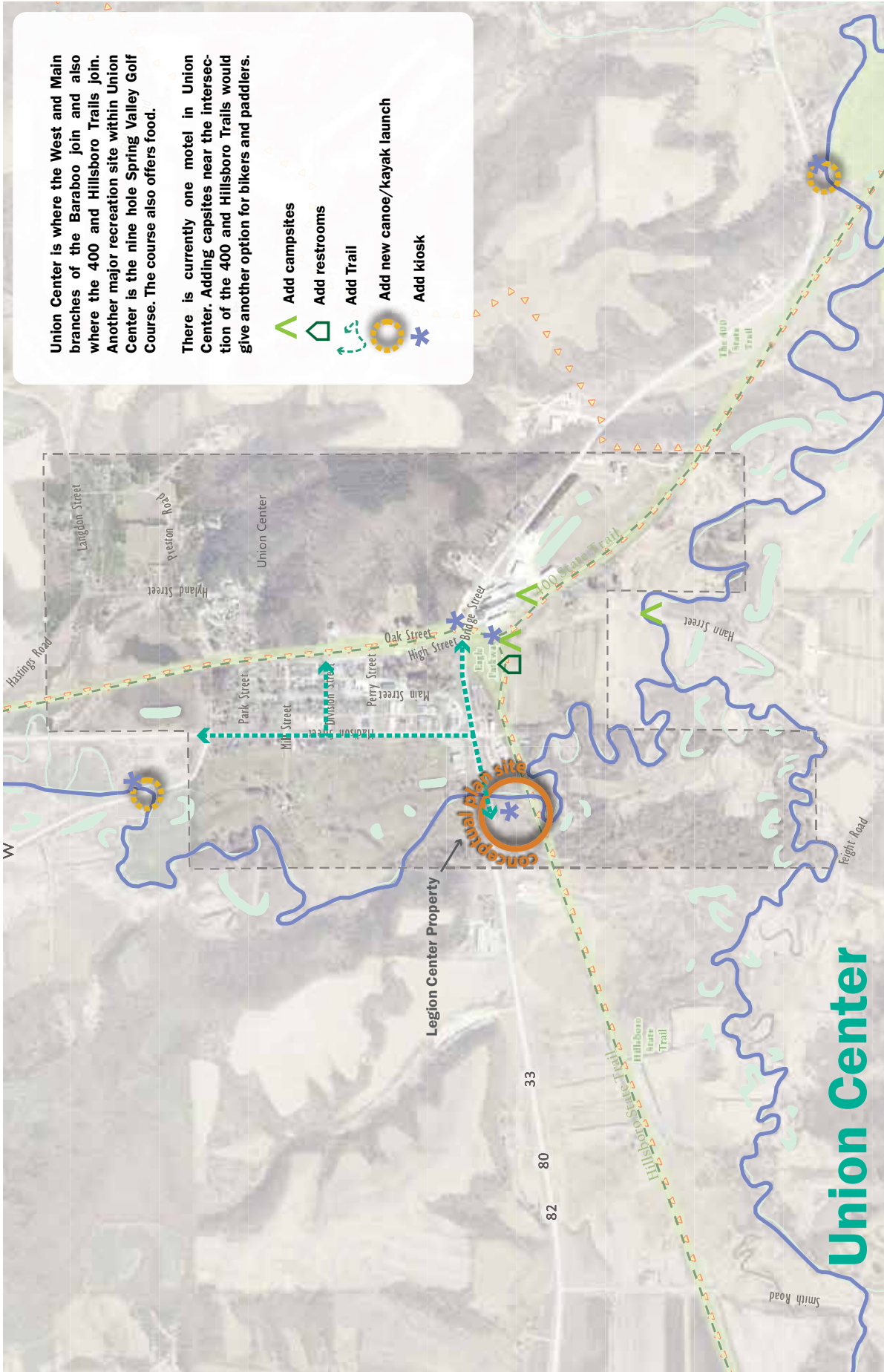


Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Wonewoc







Capital Improvements			High Priority
Lost District Canoe Landing (see conceptual design in Chapter 4 and Appendix B for Option 2 if property boundaries are confirmed)	• Gravel Drop-off/turn around pavement	\$25,000	X
	• Sidewalk (2,500 SF)	\$12,500	
	• Campsites (3)	\$12,000	
	• ADA launch	\$20,000	
	• Restroom (prefabricated)	\$80,000	
	• Drinking fountain	\$8,000	
	• Gravel Parking (5,000 SF)	\$15,000	
	• (Alternate - Asphalt drop-off/turn around)	(\$15,000)	
	• (Alternate - Asphalt parking)	(\$10,000)	
	• (Option 2 - Additional parking)	(\$15,000)	
	• (Option 2 - Additional sidewalk and cross walk)	(\$5,000)	
		Total Cost: \$232,875 (includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)	
Additional Paddle Access	• Coordinate with Woodland Township to install a non-ADA canoe/kayak landing and/or fishing dock at Strawbridge Rd./WIS 33 intersection (area known as "Fairy Dell"). The site already has 400 Trail parking and access.		
	• Coordinate with landowners near Laubscher/Taft property to see if there is a possibility of putting a non-ADA canoe/kayak launch or fishing dock at this location before Strawbridge. This location is already a popular fishing spot.		
	• Coordination with the Wonewoc-Union Center School District to see if there is a possibility of putting in a non-ADA canoe/kayak launch and/or fishing dock at the Outdoor Learning Area (OLA) and adding three tent camping spots.		
		Total Cost: \$100,000	
Trails	• Repair sidewalk on south side of Washington Street so people walking between the River and Downtown do not have to walk on the road (800 LF).		
	• Improve aesthetics on trail between Downtown and River - add signage, flowers/native plants, stamped concrete, and/or sidewalk art.		
		Total Cost: \$45,000	
Campsites	• Consider adding additional campsites at Legion Park due to access to municipal pool's showers, restrooms and shelters. Add electric utility access to open area at camp sites.		
	• Create drop boxes at official camping areas to receive camping fees.		
	• Use Southtown park as a backup for camping if all other are booked.		
		Total Cost: \$15,000	

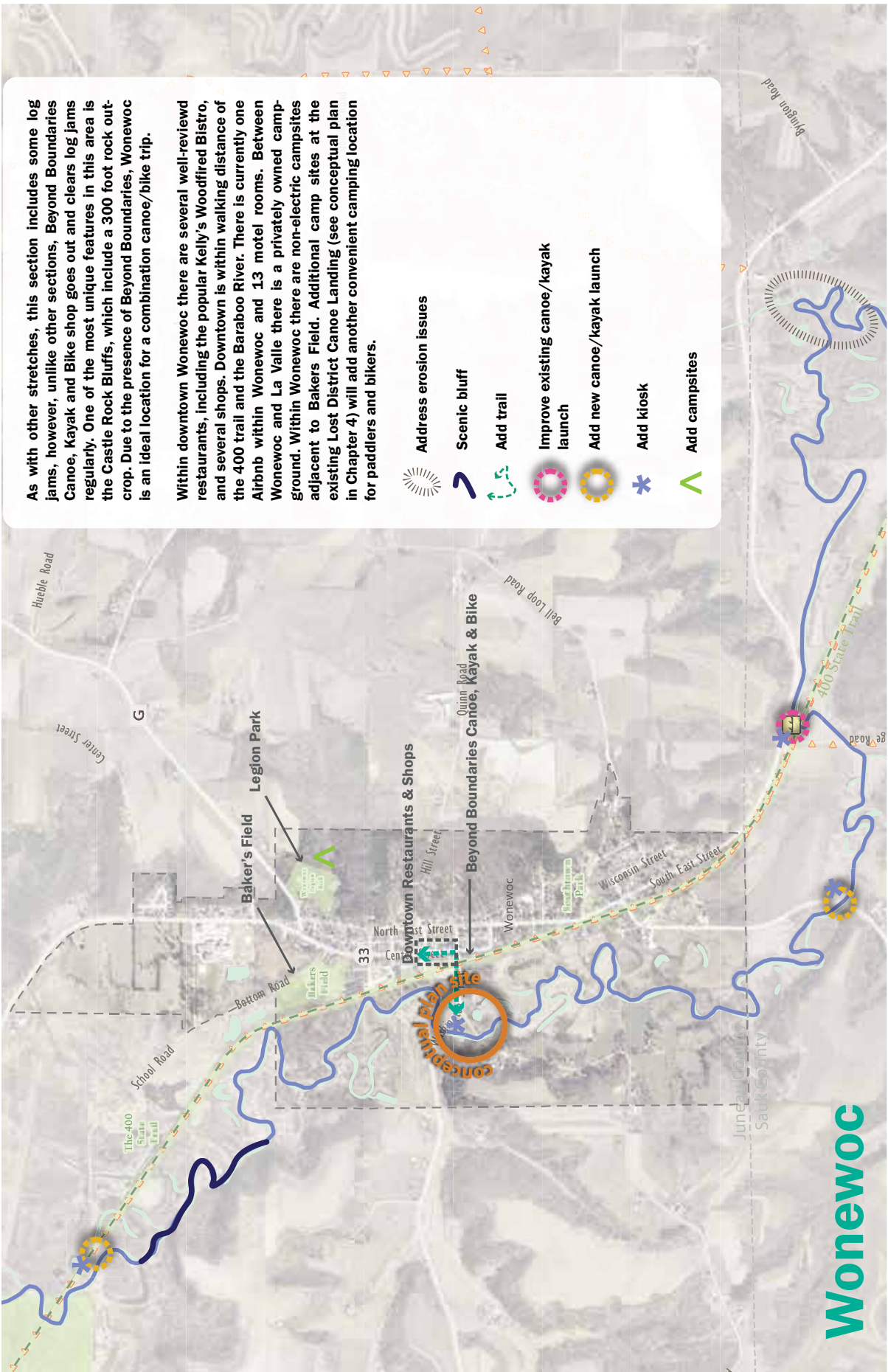
Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve “Welcome” signage - make it more visible and integrate the Baraboo River. • Include kiosks at launch sites with historic information and environmental information related to the River (4). 	X
Total Cost: \$6,000		
<hr/>		
Baker’s Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade playground equipment \$35,000 • Build elevated platforms for campsites or move sites closer to Baker’s Field. \$15,000 • Improve softball facilities \$15,000 • Add sand volleyball \$11,000 • Add disc golf \$5,000 • Upgrade concession stand facilities \$15,000 • Add small amphitheater \$25,000 • Establish program with Library to allow residents and visitors to check out equipment (i.e. tennis, basketball) for use at the park. N/A 	
Total Cost: ~\$150,000		
<hr/>		
Legion Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace pool and remodel municipal pool building \$2-3 million • Upgrade existing pit toilets \$25,000 • Add small amphitheater \$25,000 • Shelter repairs \$10,000 	
Total Cost: ~\$2.06 - 3.06		
		<i>(more precise cost estimates should be completed and included in Village’s CIP)</i>
<hr/>		
Bridge at Bottom Road	Add bridge at Bottom Road to connect to “400” Trail.	
Total Cost: \$600,000		
<hr/>		

As with other stretches, this section includes some log jams, however, unlike other sections, Beyond Boundaries Canoe, Kayak and Bike shop goes out and clears log jams regularly. One of the most unique features in this area is the Castle Rock Bluffs, which include a 300 foot rock outcrop. Due to the presence of Beyond Boundaries, Wonewoc is an ideal location for a combination canoe/kayak/bike trip.

Within downtown Wonewoc there are several well-reviewed restaurants, including the popular Kelly's Woodfired Bistro, and several shops. Downtown is within walking distance of the 400 trail and the Baraboo River. There is currently one Airbnb within Wonewoc and 13 motel rooms. Between Wonewoc and La Valle there is a privately owned campground. Within Wonewoc there are non-electric campsites adjacent to Bakers Field. Additional camp sites at the existing Lost District Canoe Landing (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) will add another convenient camping location for paddlers and bikers.

-  Address erosion issues
-  Scenic bluff
-  Add trail
-  Improve existing canoe/kayak launch
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk
-  Add campsites



Wonewoc

Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

River Rescue Equipment for Fire Department	Water Rescue Task Force		X
	• Boat (1)	\$4,500	
	• SCBA Bottle (for filling boat) (2)	\$0	
	• Ropes - 500' 3/8" water rescue (3)	\$1,200	
	• Ropes 300' 3/8" water rescue (3)	\$705	
	• Carabiners, steel, heavy duty (6)	\$216	
	• Carabiners, aluminum (20)	\$300	
	• System pulleys, prusik minding (4)	\$300	
	• Prusik cords - 2 sizes (30)	\$150	
	• Large trolley pulley (1)	\$100	
	• Enclosed 19' trailers w/ modifications (1)	\$8,000	
	• Mercury Zodiac style boat w/motor (1)	\$7,500	
	Personal Gear (one of each for each trained member)		
	• Rescue PFD	\$195	
	• Tether (optional)	\$22	
	• Knife	\$25	
	• Helmet	\$35	
	• Micro pulley	\$13	
	• Personal carabiner	\$7	
	• Throw bag	\$35	
	• NRS Farmer John Wetsuit	\$100	
	• NRS Farmer John Jacket	\$105	
	• Rocka Dry Suit Safety Boots	\$135	
	• Training (operations and technical level)	\$650	
	• Travel for training	\$350	
	Total Cost:	\$26,315	
		(assumes	
		two trained	
		members)	

Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

La Valle

Capital Improvements

**High
Priority**

Conceptual Plan (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking/Drive (10,000 SF) \$35,000 • ADA Launch \$60,000 • Restroom (prefabricated) \$100,000 • Concrete Trail to ADA Launch (~175LF x 10' wide) \$14,000 • Campsites (3) \$10,000 • Gravel Trail (~350 LF x 8' wide) \$4,500 • Open Shelter \$25,000 • Drinking Fountain \$8,000
	<p>Total Cost: \$346,275 (includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)</p>




Trail	Develop a multi-use trail along the River (1,300 LF - excludes existing sidewalk).	Total Cost: \$50,000
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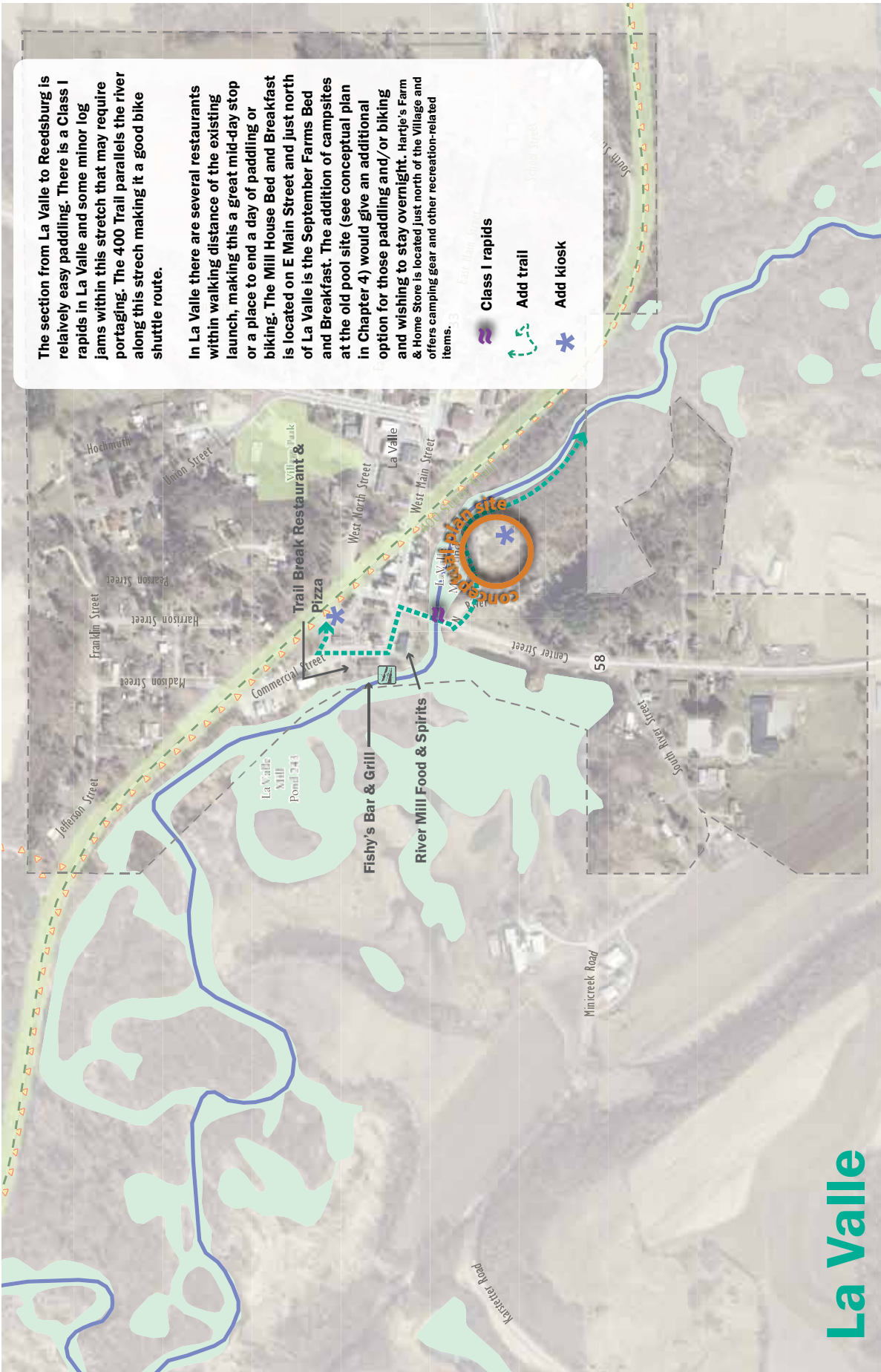
Signage	Add informational signage to existing parking area for 400 Trail that lists things to do and places to eat in the Village and at canoe/kayak launch (2).	X	Total Cost: \$3,000
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Rapids	Remove or reposition rocks at rapids near the bridge to make the passage safe and enjoyable for users of all skill levels.	Total Cost: \$15,000
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The section from La Valle to Reedsburg is relatively easy paddling. There is a Class I rapids in La Valle and some minor log jams within this stretch that may require portaging. The 400 Trail parallels the river along this stretch making it a good bike shuttle route.

In La Valle there are several restaurants within walking distance of the existing launch, making this a great mid-day stop or a place to end a day of paddling or biking. The Mill House Bed and Breakfast is located on E Main Street and just north of La Valle is the September Farms Bed and Breakfast. The addition of campsites at the old pool site (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) would give an additional option for those paddling and/or biking and wishing to stay overnight. Hartie's Farm & Home Store is located just north of the Village and offers camping gear and other recreation-related items.

-  Class I rapids
-  Add trail
-  Add kiosk



La Valle

Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Reedsburg

Capital Improvements

**High
Priority**

Blakeslee’s Landing (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	• Parking (5,200 SF)	\$18,000	X
	• ADA launch	\$40,000	
	• Asphalt trail to ADA launch (270 LF x 10’ wide)	\$8,500	
	• Fence and landscape screening	\$5,000	

Total Cost: \$96,525
(includes: 35% for GC, site work, etc.)

Additional Paddle Access	• Add paddle access to South Park.
	• Add City-owned paddle rental kiosk to existing building at Granite Avenue launch and add public restrooms.
	• Discuss feasibility of adding paddle access off of Golf Course Road with private landowner.

Total Cost: \$200,000

Trail	• Add riverwalk between Smith Conservancy and Popple Nature Trails. Add an offshoot trail that connects to downtown restaurants, shops and bike and kayak rental shop (4,000 LF).
	• Continue trail maintenance on paved trail by Bicentennial Monument.
	• Provide support facilities for “400” Trail users
	• Add pedestrian intersection improvements at Granite Avenue site.

Total Cost: \$170,000

Campsites	• Add additional campsites to Granite Avenue site.
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\$5,000

Total Cost:

Signage	Include kiosks at launch site and along riverwalk with historic information and environmental information related to the River (7).	X
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Total Cost: \$9,000

Land & Development Improvements

New Development	Identify business opportunities in the area for canoe rental, restaurants and other water recreation-oriented businesses.
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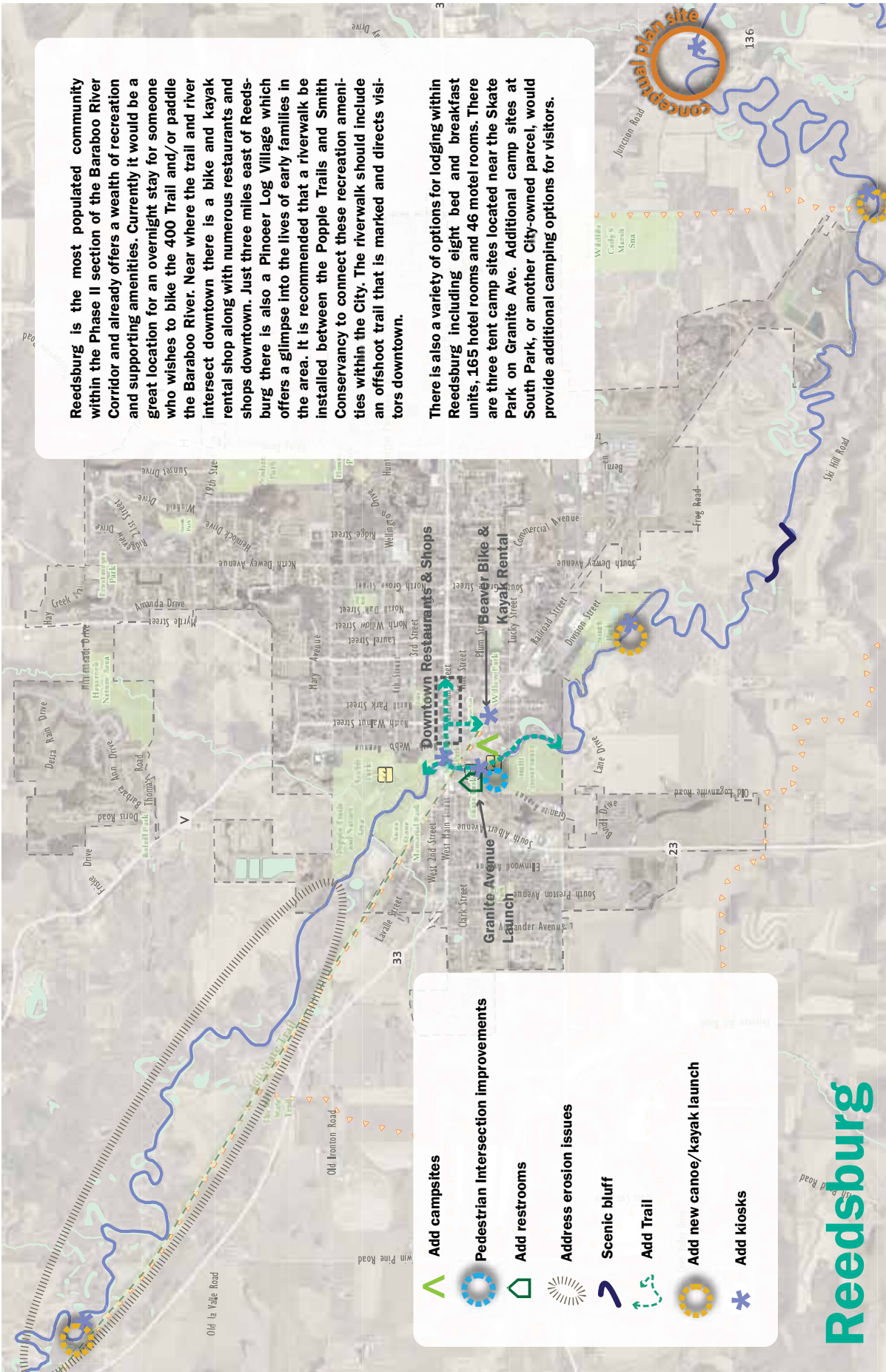
Total Cost: N/A

Floodplain Transformation Plan	Implement the Floodplain Transformation Plan’s recommendations along the Baraboo River (see the 2011 plan).
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Total Cost: N/A

Reedsburg is the most populated community within the Phase II section of the Baraboo River Corridor and already offers a wealth of recreation and supporting amenities. Currently it would be a great location for an overnight stay for someone who wishes to bike the 400 Trail and/or paddle the Baraboo River. Near where the trail and river intersect downtown there is a bike and kayak rental shop along with numerous restaurants and shops downtown. Just three miles east of Reedsburg there is also a Pineoer Log Village which offers a glimpse into the lives of early families in the area. It is recommended that a riverwalk be installed between the Popple Trails and Smith Conservancy to connect these recreation amenities within the City. The riverwalk should include an offshoot trail that is marked and directs visitors downtown.

There is also a variety of options for lodging within Reedsburg including eight bed and breakfast units, 165 hotel rooms and 46 motel rooms. There are three tent camp sites located near the Skate Park on Granite Ave. Additional camp sites at South Park, or another City-owned parcel, would provide additional camping options for visitors.



Reedsburg

Rock Springs

Capital Improvements

High
Priority

Jodie K. Busser Memorial Park (see conceptual design in Chapter 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA launch • Sidewalk to launch (2,500 SF) • Footbridge • Restroom (prefabricated) • Paved Trail (2,200 LF) • Open air shelter • Playground (2) • Parking/drive (25,000 SF) • Fishing pier (+\$20,000 if a second launch is desired) • Campsites (3) • Landscaping • Salvaged Shelter and Concrete 	<p>\$60,000</p> <p>\$12,500</p> <p>\$100,000</p> <p>\$150,000</p> <p>\$55,000</p> <p>\$60,000</p> <p>\$80,000</p> <p>\$70,000</p> <p>\$50,000</p> <p>\$12,000</p> <p>\$25,000</p> <p>\$15,000</p>	X (ADA launch)
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Total Cost: **\$1.03 million**
(includes: 50% for GC, site work, etc.)

Additional Paddle Access Formalize existing canoe/kayak launch across from Firemen's Park and formalize parking area.

Total Cost: **\$70,000**

Trail Install Riverwalk connecting from Van Hise Rock to the southern municipal boundary of Rock Springs (7,000 LF).

Total Cost: **\$170,000**

Signage Include kiosks at launch sites and along riverwalk with historic information and environmental information related to the River (3).

X

Total Cost: **\$5,000**

Land & Development Improvements





New Development

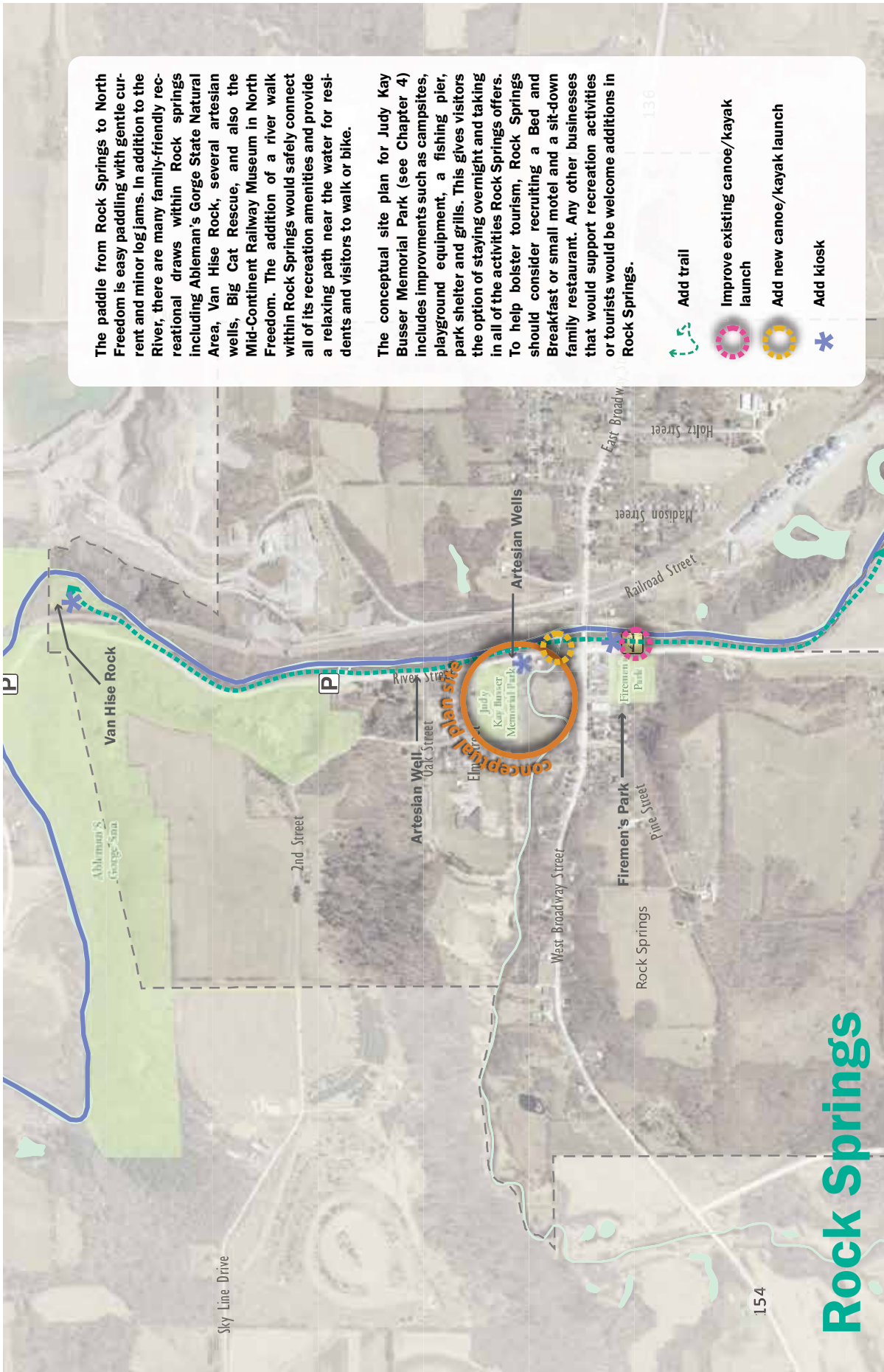
- Recruit local family-style restaurant
- Recruit bed and breakfast or small motel

Total Cost: **N/A**

The paddle from Rock Springs to North Freedom is easy paddling with gentle current and minor log jams. In addition to the River, there are many family-friendly recreational draws within Rock Springs including Ableman's Gorge State Natural Area, Van Hise Rock, several artesian wells, Big Cat Rescue, and also the Mid-Continent Railway Museum in North Freedom. The addition of a river walk within Rock Springs would safely connect all of its recreation amenities and provide a relaxing path near the water for residents and visitors to walk or bike.

The conceptual site plan for Judy Kay Busser Memorial Park (see Chapter 4) includes improvements such as campsites, playground equipment, a fishing pier, park shelter and grills. This gives visitors the option of staying overnight and taking in all of the activities Rock Springs offers. To help bolster tourism, Rock Springs should consider recruiting a Bed and Breakfast or small motel and a sit-down family restaurant. Any other businesses that would support recreation activities or tourists would be welcome additions in Rock Springs.

-  Add trail
-  Improve existing canoe/kayak launch
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

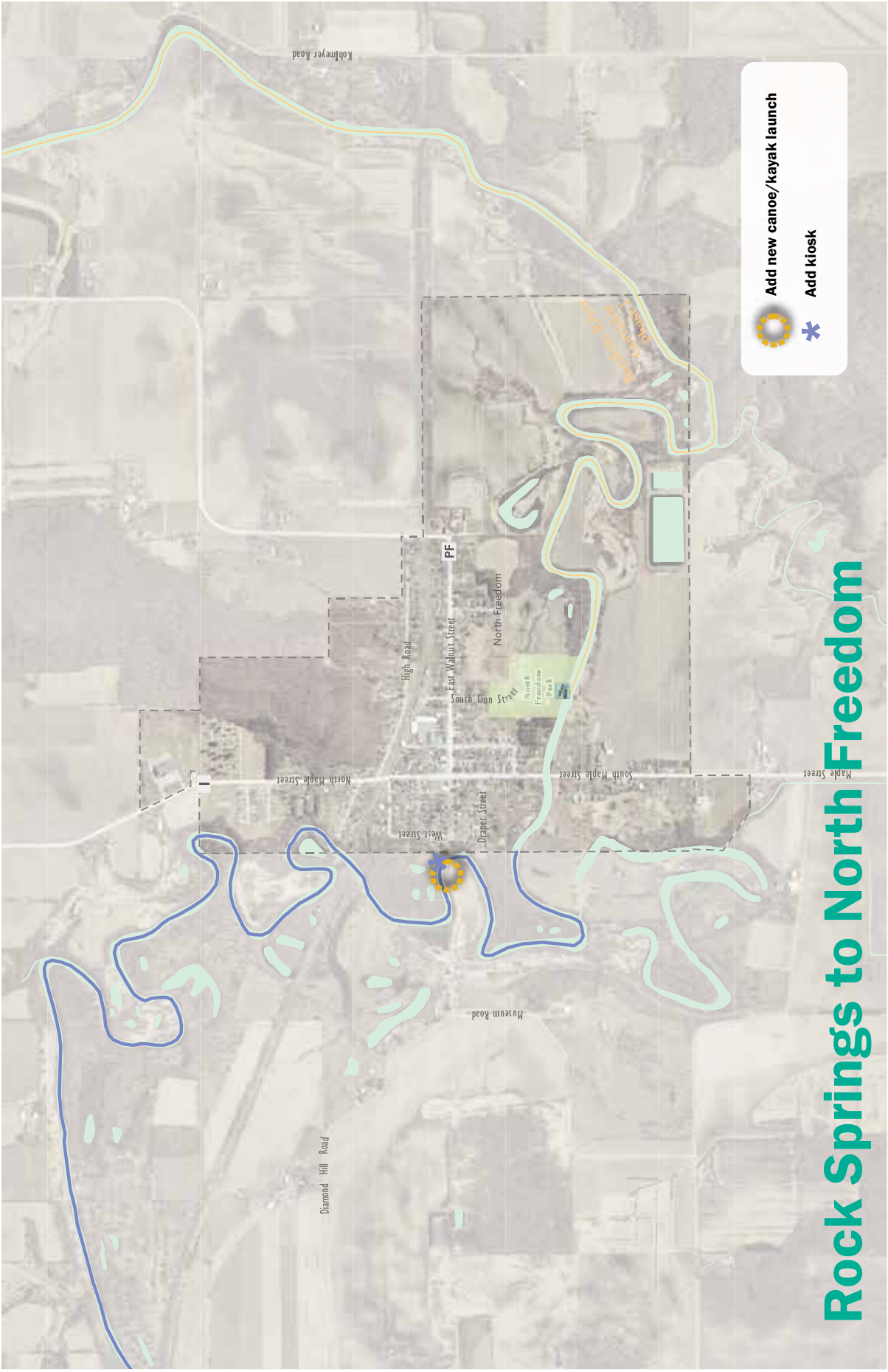



Rock Springs


Table 6.2 Implementation Plan

Sauk County

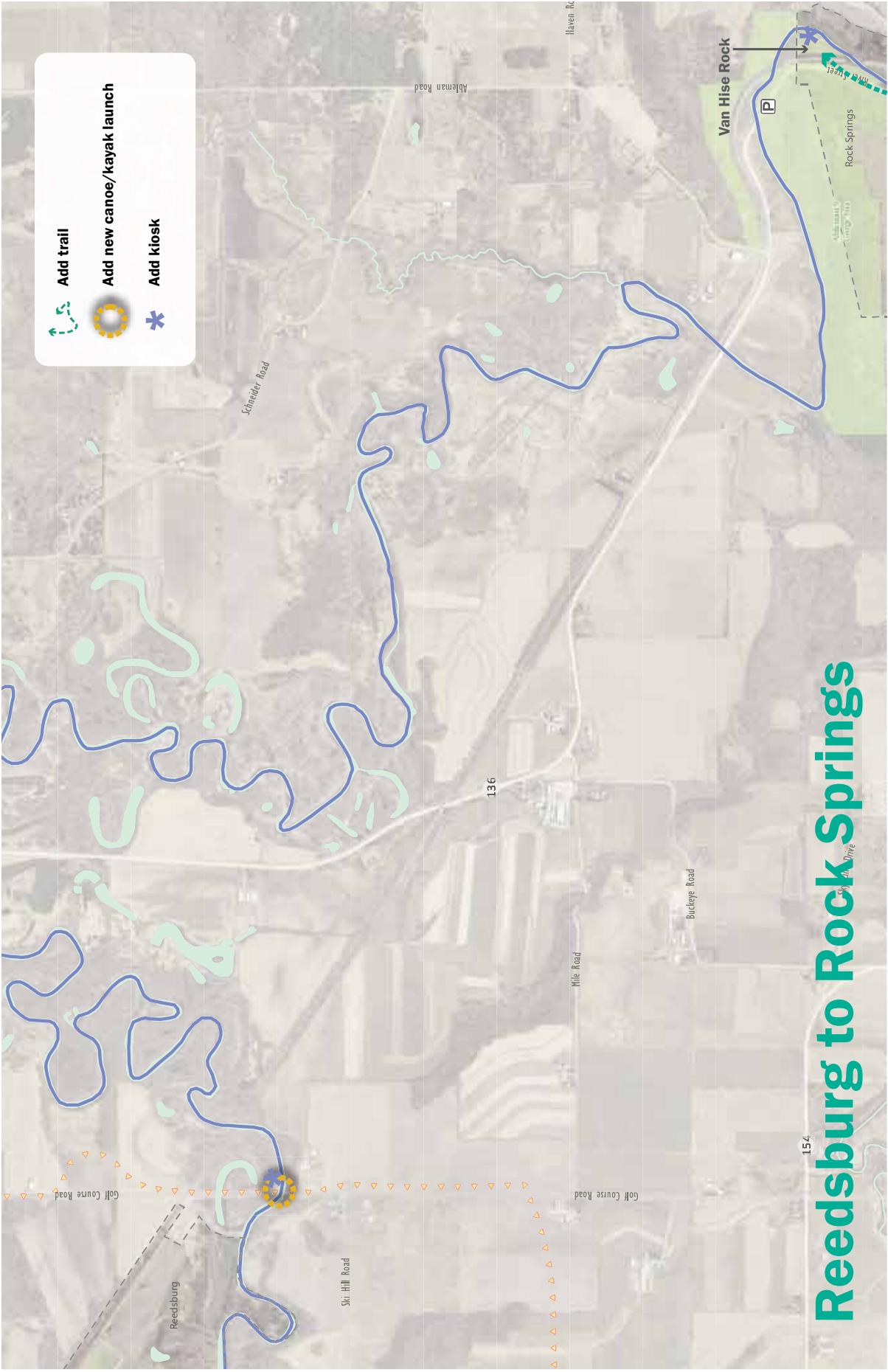
Capital Improvements		High Priority
Additional Paddle Access	• Add ADA paddle access on W. Walnut Street/Diamond Hill Road (outside of North Freedom)	\$50-75K
	• Improve the Douglas Park access point (outside of La Valle)	\$75K
	• Add paddle access on Kalepp Road (between Wonewoc and La Valle)	\$50-75K
	Total Cost: \$175-225K	
Signage	Include kiosks at launch sites with historic information and environmental information related to the River (3).	X
Total Cost: \$5,000		



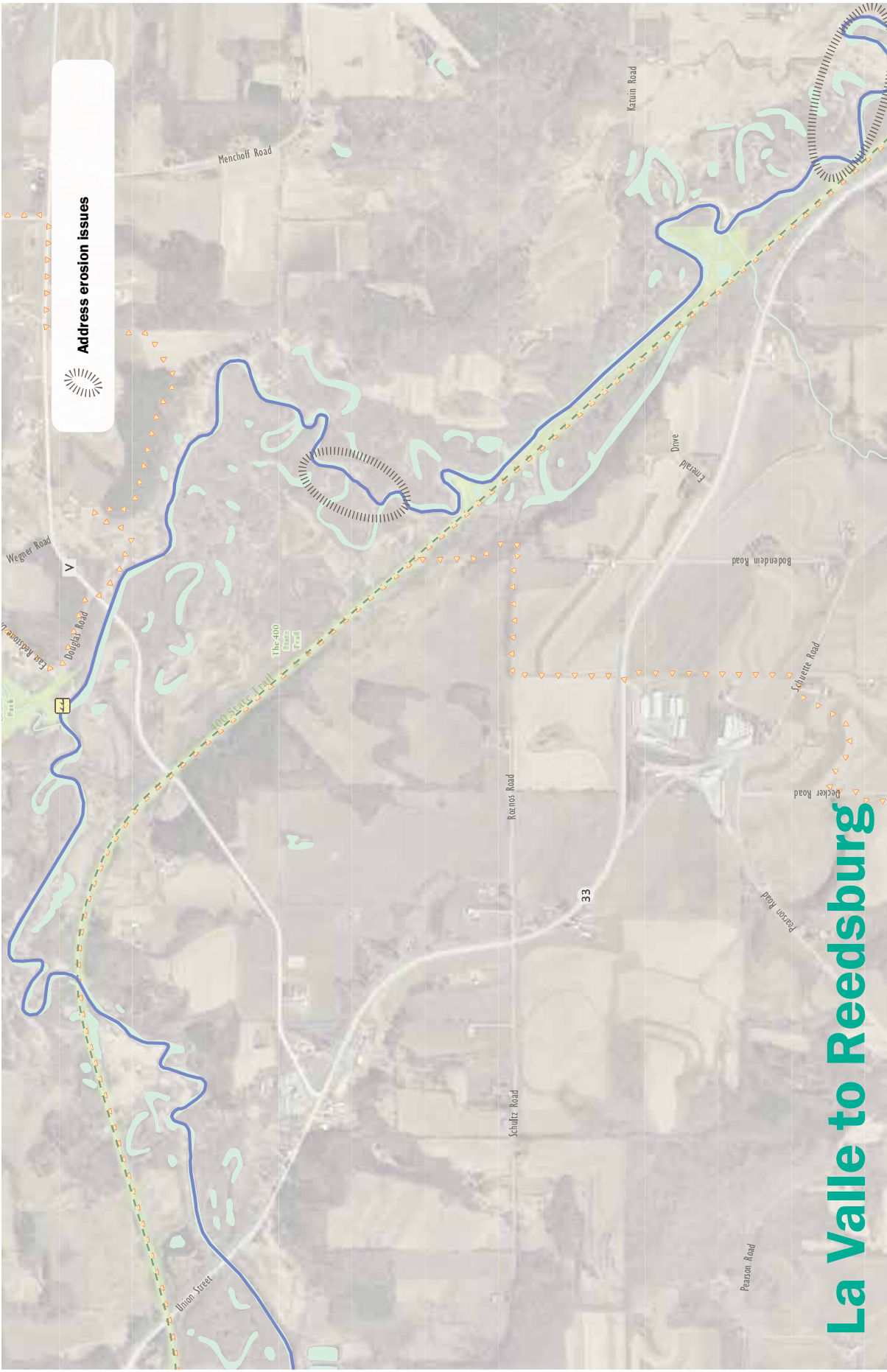
 Add new canoe/kayak launch

 Add kiosk

Rock Springs to North Freedom






Reedsburg to Rock Springs

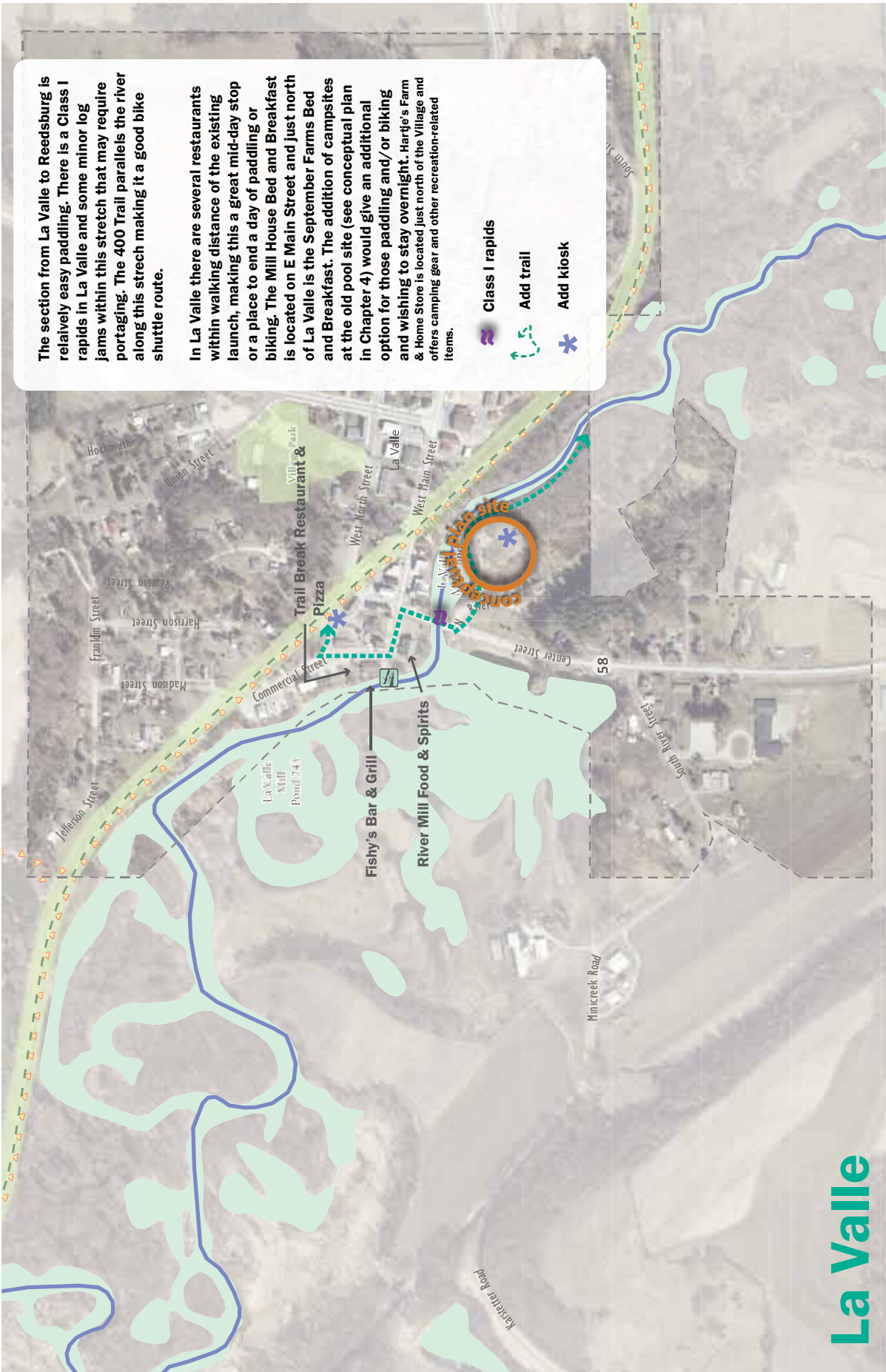


La Valle to Reedsburg

The section from La Valle to Reedsburg is relatively easy paddling. There is a Class I rapids in La Valle and some minor log jams within this stretch that may require portaging. The 400 Trail parallels the river along this stretch making it a good bike shuttle route.

In La Valle there are several restaurants within walking distance of the existing launch, making this a great mid-day stop or a place to end a day of paddling or biking. The Mill House Bed and Breakfast is located on E Main Street and just north of La Valle is the September Farms Bed and Breakfast. The addition of campsites at the old pool site (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) would give an additional option for those paddling and/or biking and wishing to stay overnight. Harjo's Farm & Home Store is located just north of the Village and offers camping gear and other recreation-related items.

-  Class I rapids
-  Add trail
-  Add kiosk



La Valle

Juneau County

Capital Improvements

High
Priority

- Additional Paddle Access
- Add paddle access on Wagner Road (between Union Center and Elroy)
 - Add paddle access off of Ackerman Rd (between Union Center and Elroy)

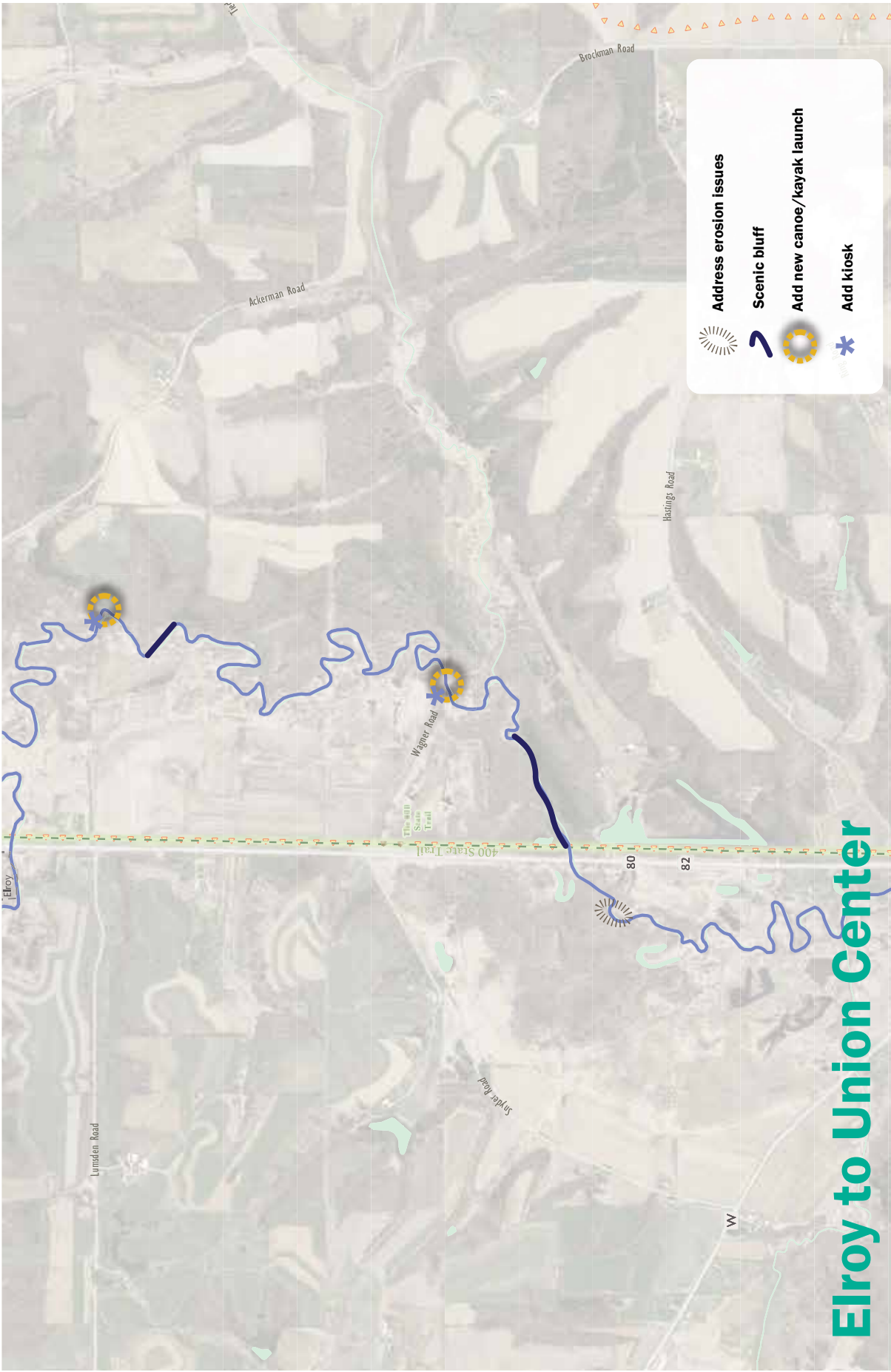
Total Cost: **\$200,000**

Signage

Include kiosks at launch sites with historic information and environmental information related to the River (2).

X

Total Cost: **\$3,000**

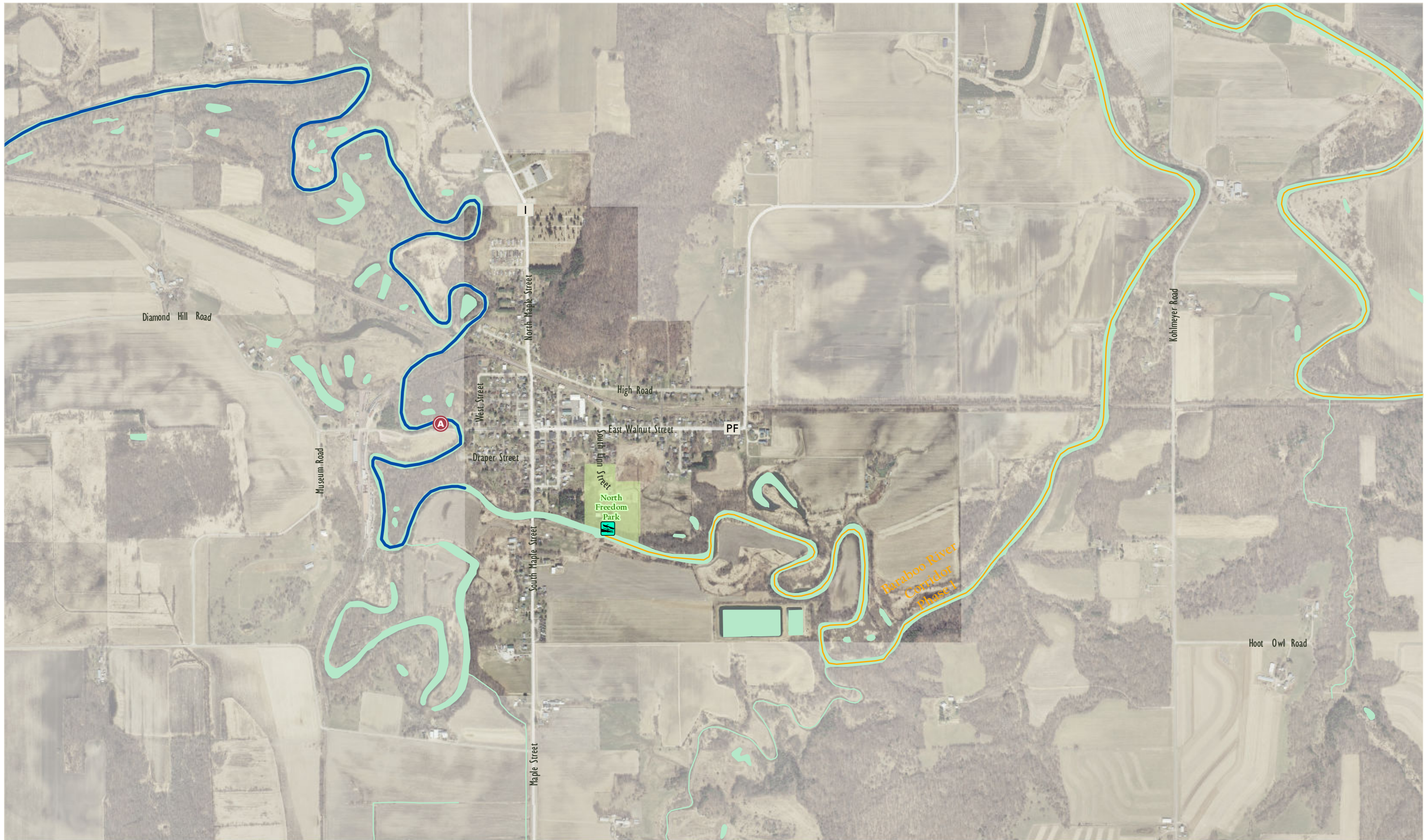


Elroy to Union Center

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A

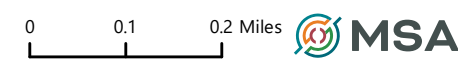
*Inventory &
Analysis Maps*



North Freedom
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Possible Access Point
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- State Trail
- Habitat
- Unique Feature
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Snowmobile Trail*
- Log Jam
- Parking Lot
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2

**The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.*

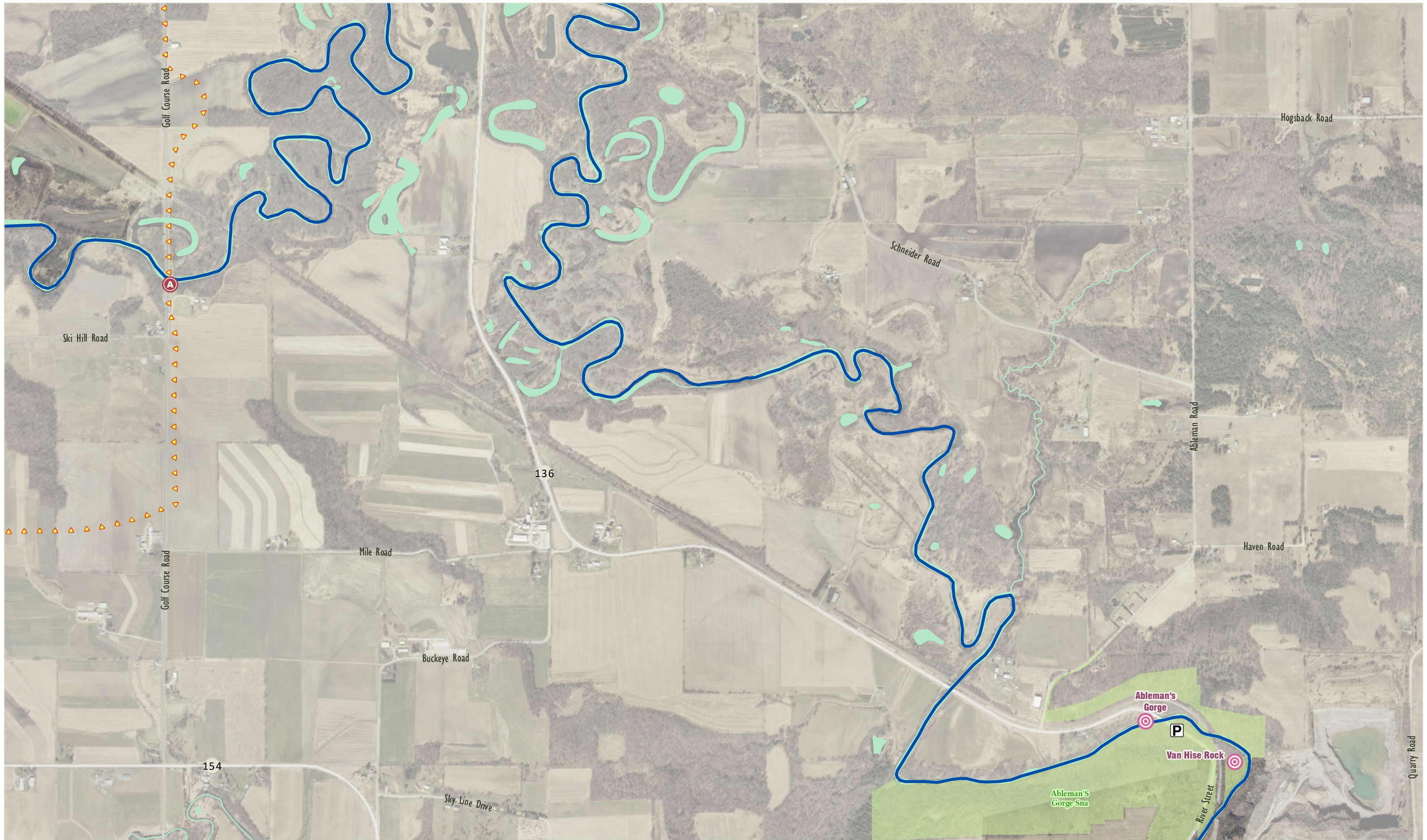




Rock Springs
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | |

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

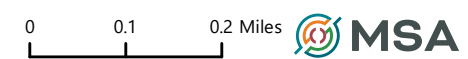


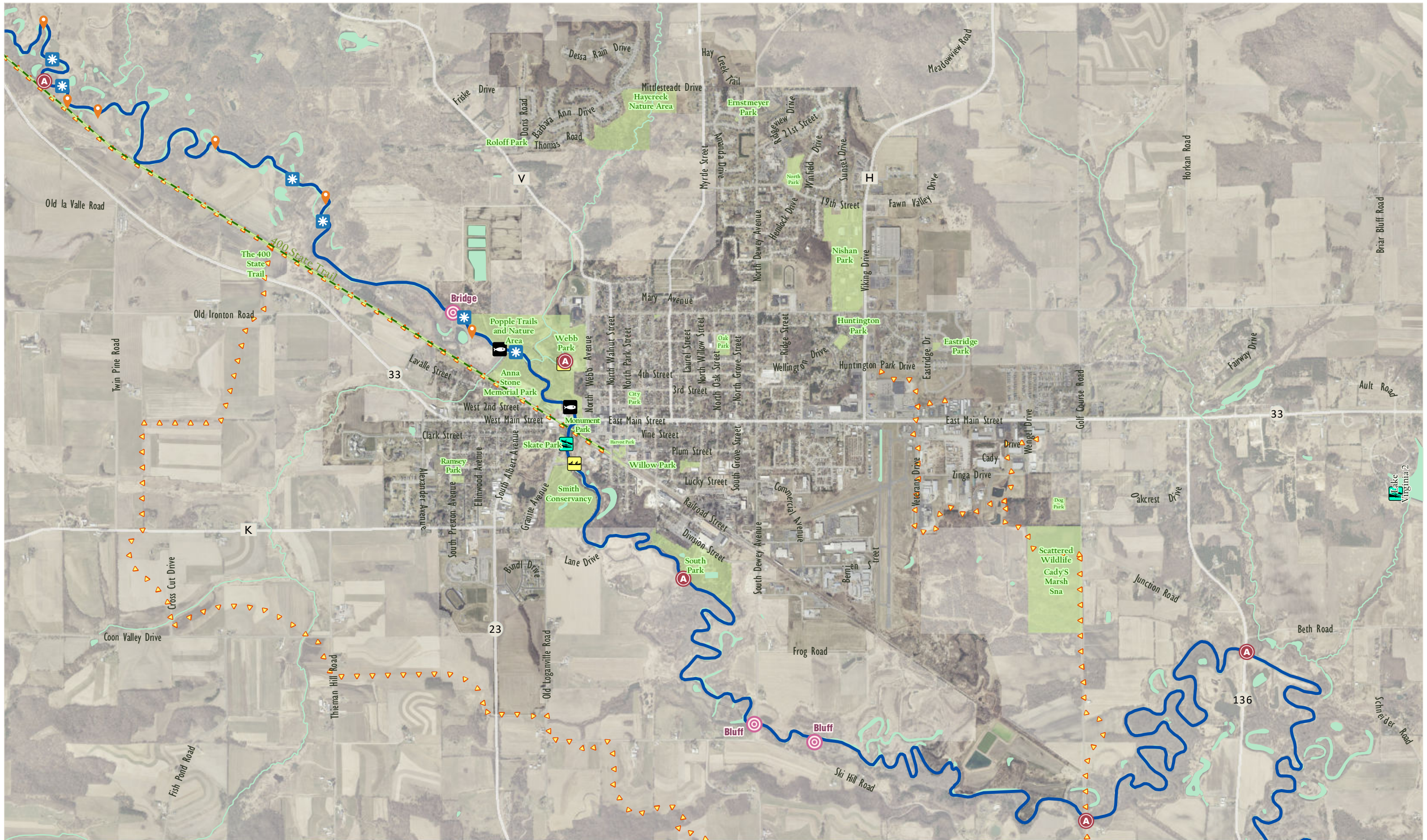
Between Rock Springs and Reedsburg

Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | |

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

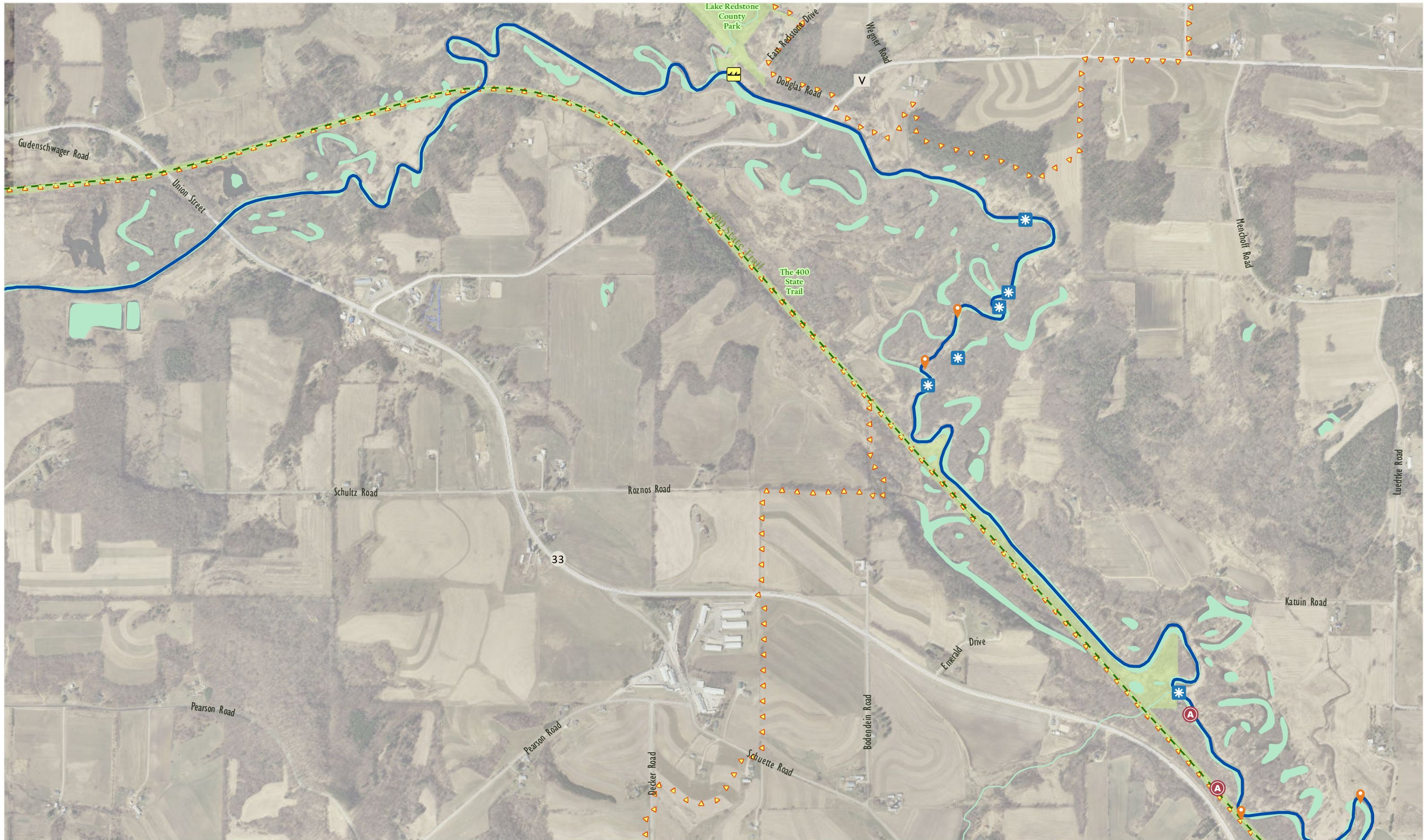




Reedsburg
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Possible Access Point
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- State Trail
- Habitat
- Unique Feature
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Snowmobile Trail*
- Log Jam
- Parking Lot
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2

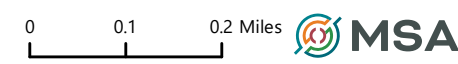
*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.



Between Reedsburg and La Valle
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | |

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.



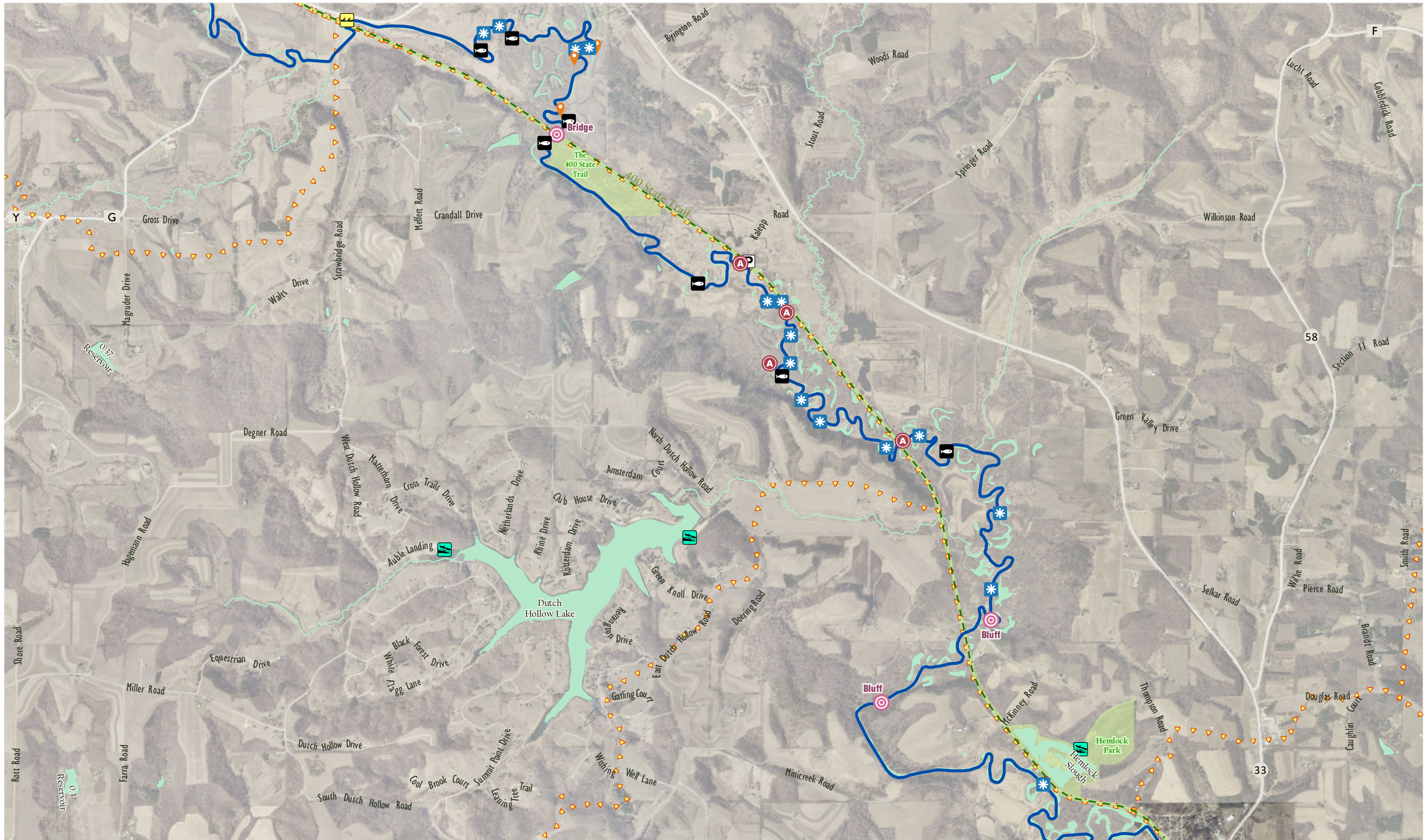


La Valle
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Possible Access Point
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- State Trail
- Habitat
- Unique Feature
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Snowmobile Trail*
- Log Jam
- Parking Lot
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Between La Valle and Wonewoc
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | |

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

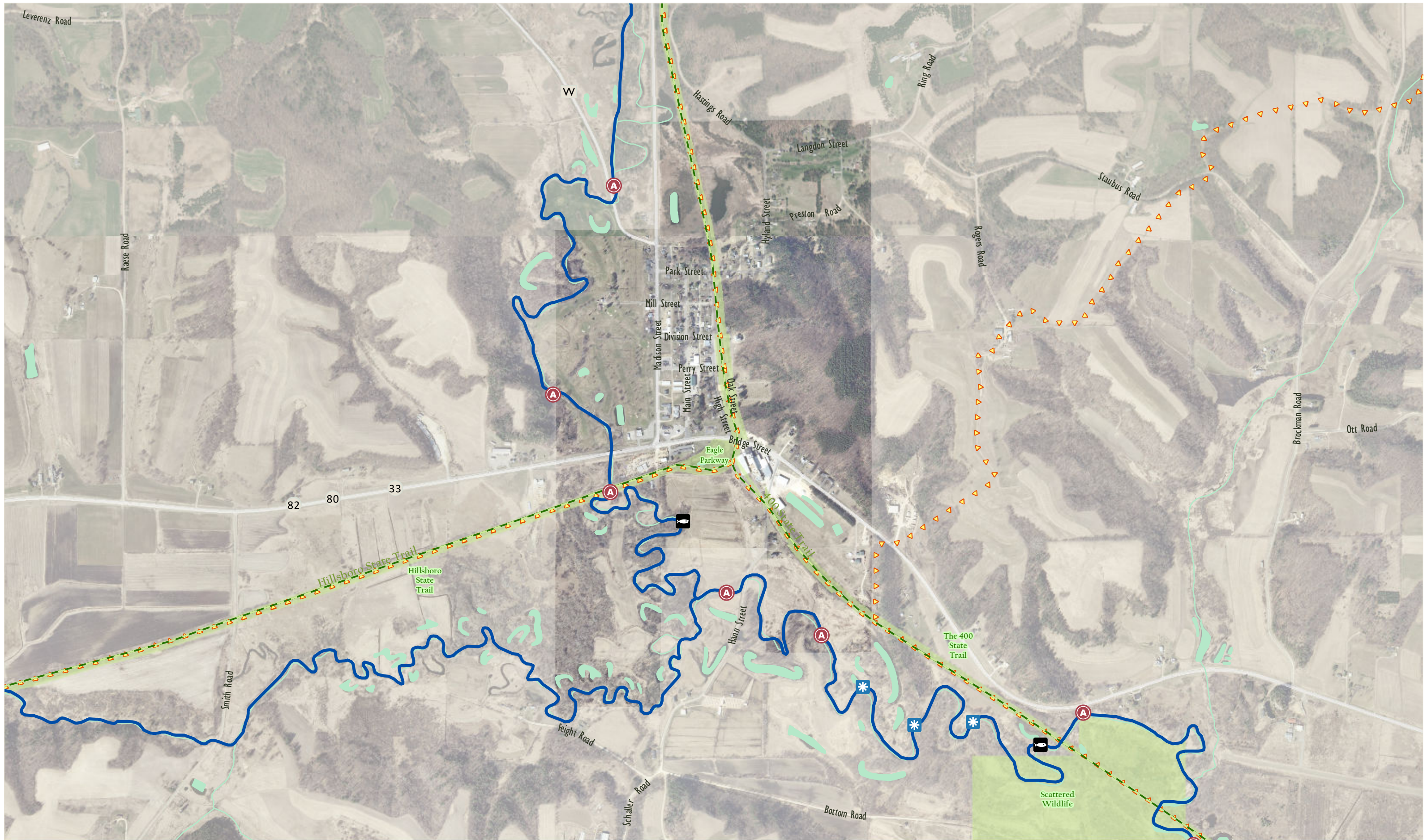


Wonewoc
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory











- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | |

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

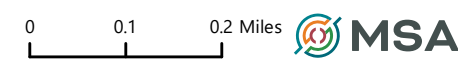
0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Union Center
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

-  Erosion
-  Possible Access Point
-  Boat Access, Carry-In
-  State Trail
-  Parking Lot
-  Log Jam
-  Unique Feature
-  Boat Access, Ramp
-  Snowmobile Trail*
-  Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2

*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

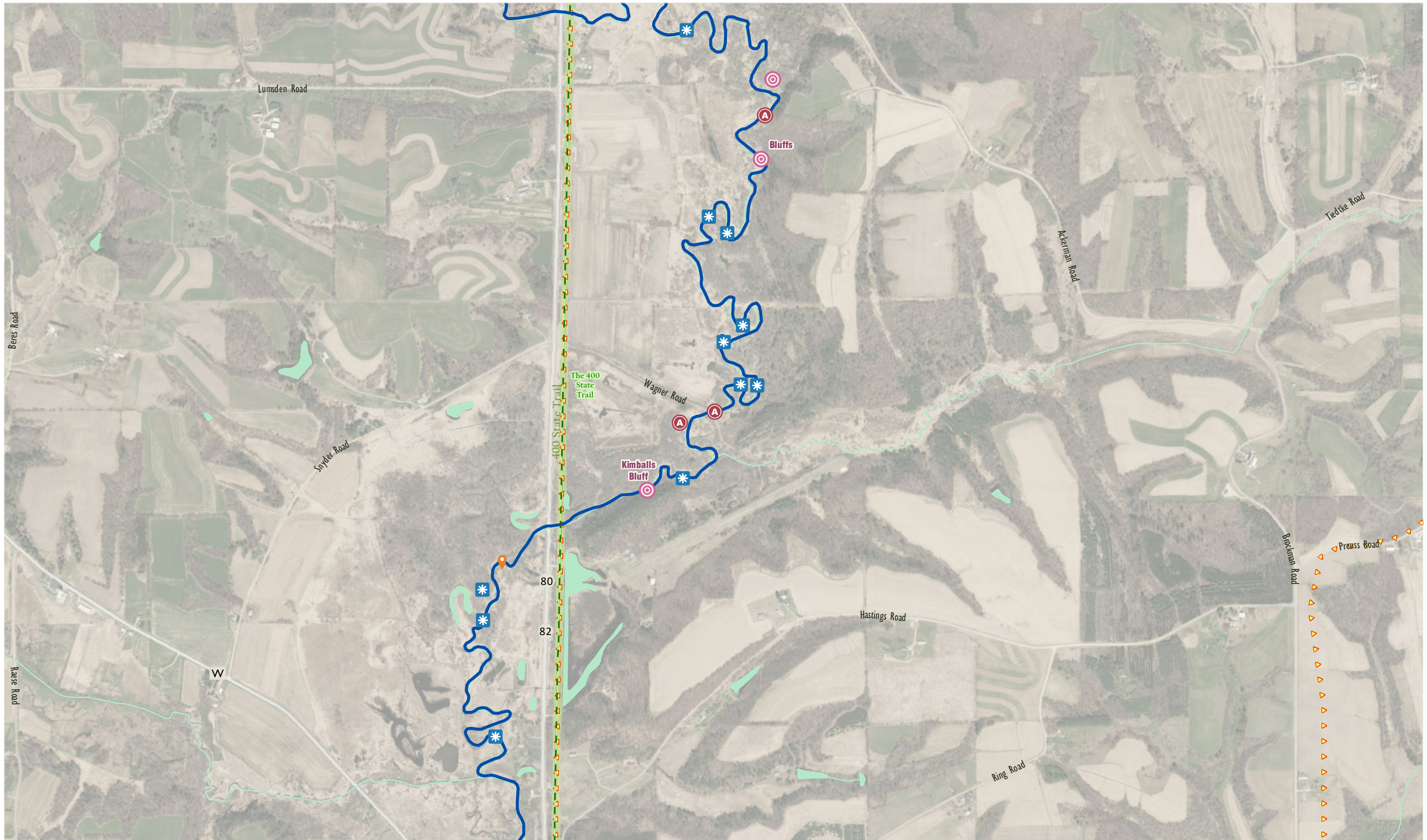















Hillsboro
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- Erosion
- Habitat
- Log Jam
- Possible Access Point
- Unique Feature
- Parking Lot
- Boat Access, Carry-In
- Boat Access, Ramp
- Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2
- State Trail
- Snowmobile Trail*

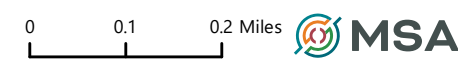
*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

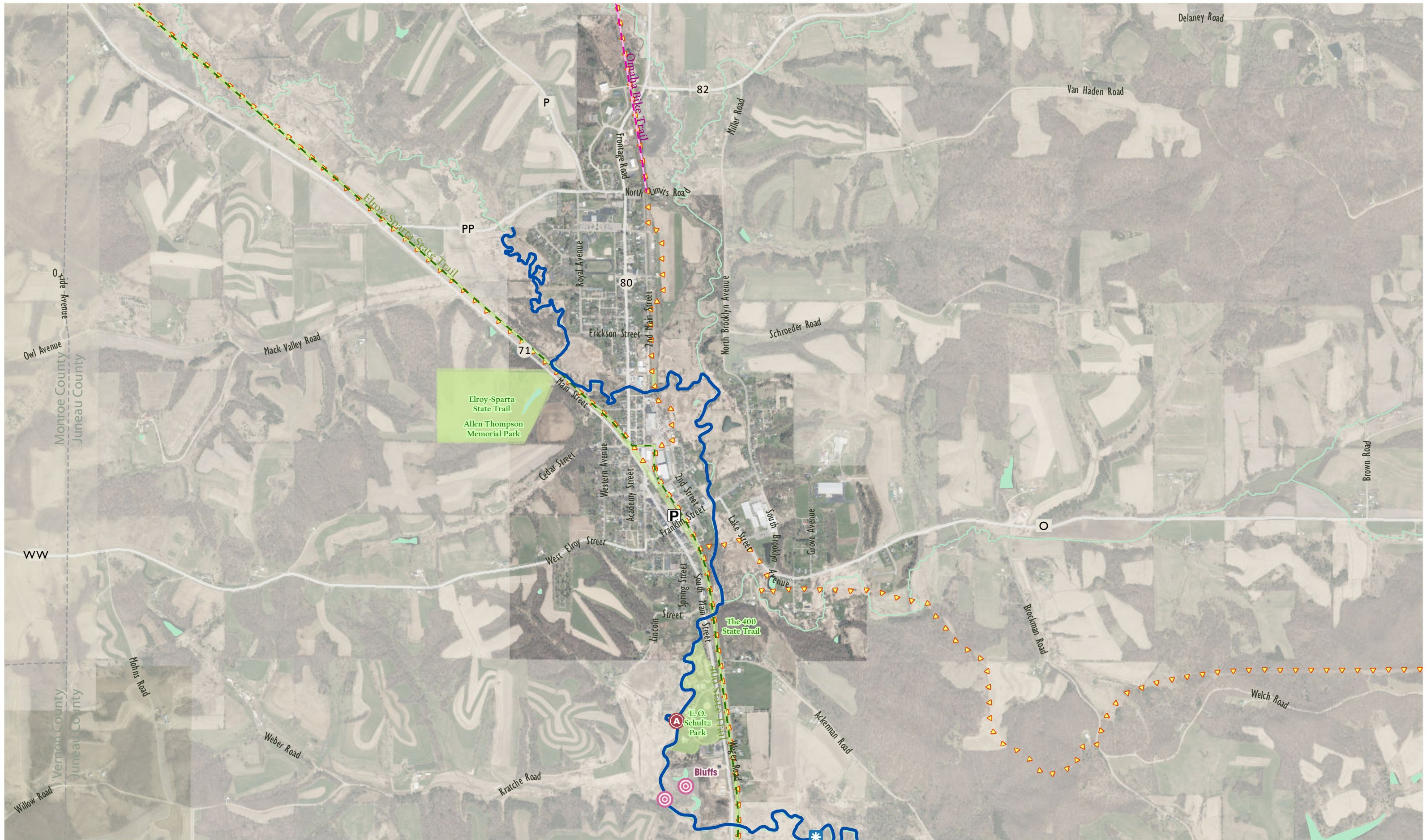


Between Union Center and Elroy
Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

-  Erosion
-  Possible Access Point
-  Boat Access, Carry-In
-  State Trail
-  Habitat
-  Unique Feature
-  Boat Access, Ramp
-  Snowmobile Trail*
-  Log Jam
-  Parking Lot
-  Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2

**The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.*





Elroy
 Baraboo River Corridor Phase 2 Field Inventory

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Erosion | Possible Access Point | Boat Access, Carry-In | State Trail |
| Habitat | Unique Feature | Boat Access, Ramp | Snowmobile Trail* |
| Log Jam | Parking Lot | Baraboo River Corridor Phase #2 | Omaha Bike Trail |

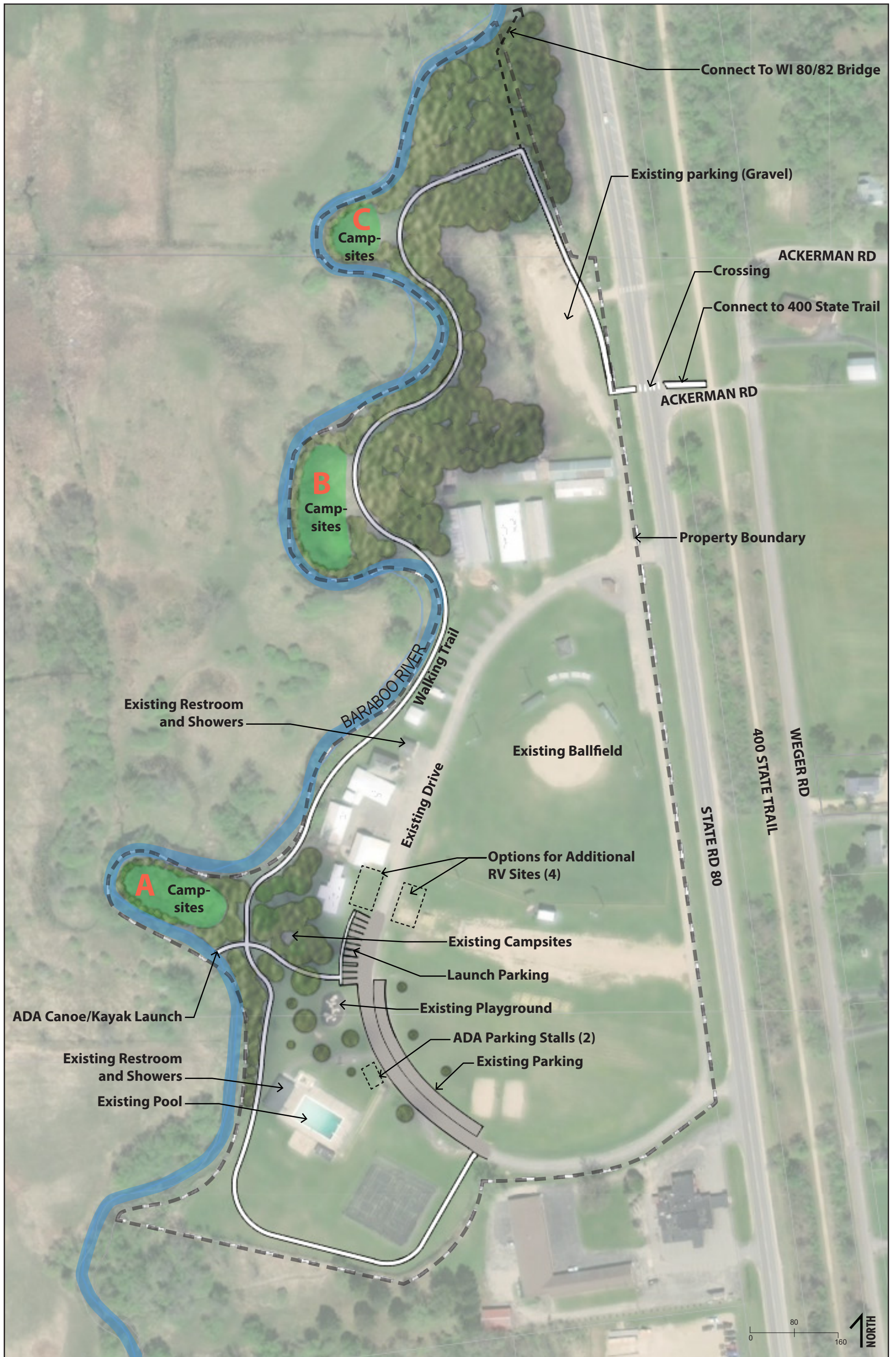
*The location of snowmobile trails are approximate.

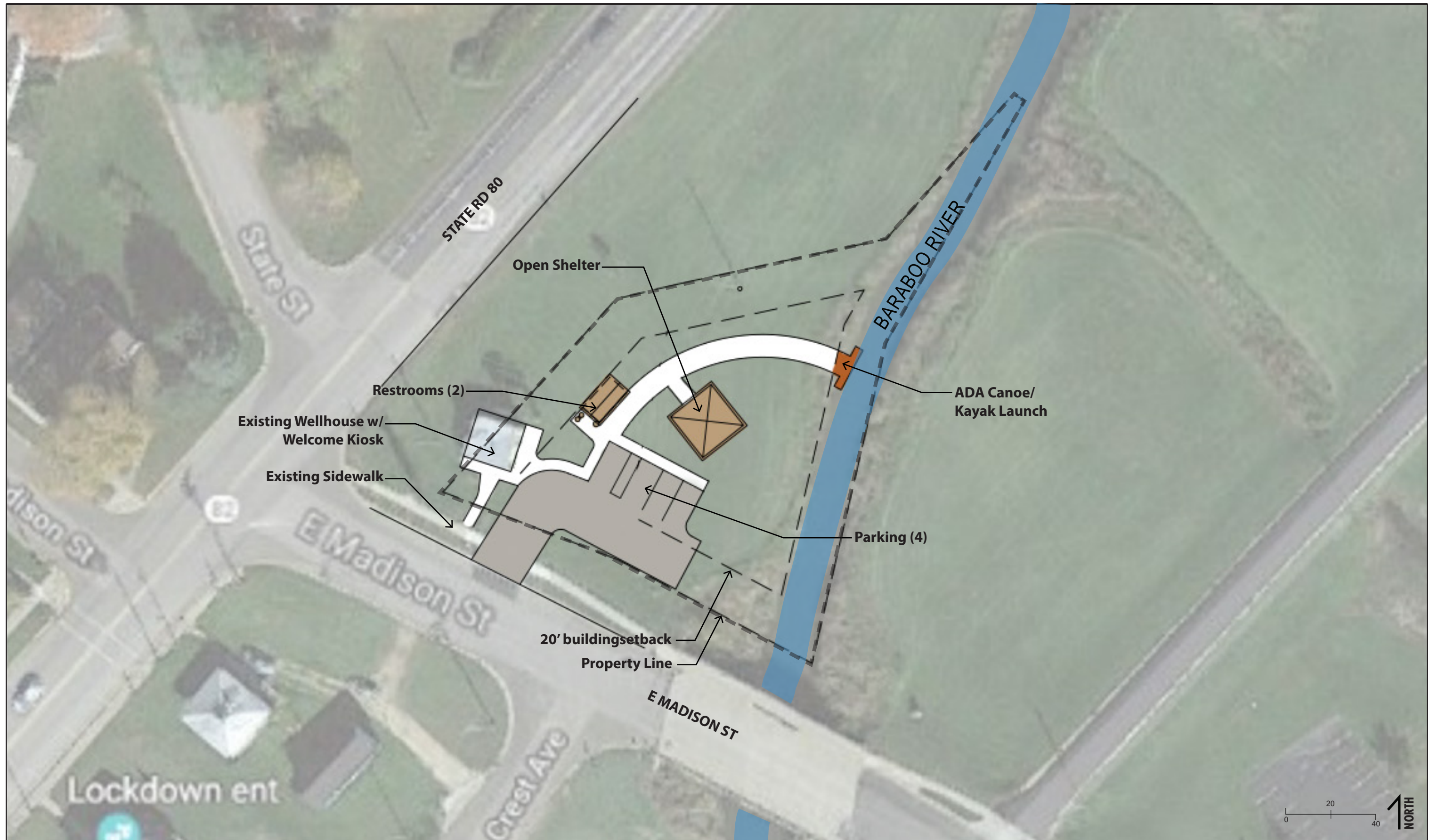
0 0.1 0.2 Miles

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B

*Conceptual
Plans*





Baraboo River Access

Winchel Property Launch Concept Plan

Union Center, WI
3/6/2019



Baraboo River Access

Rock Springs, WI
3/6/2019

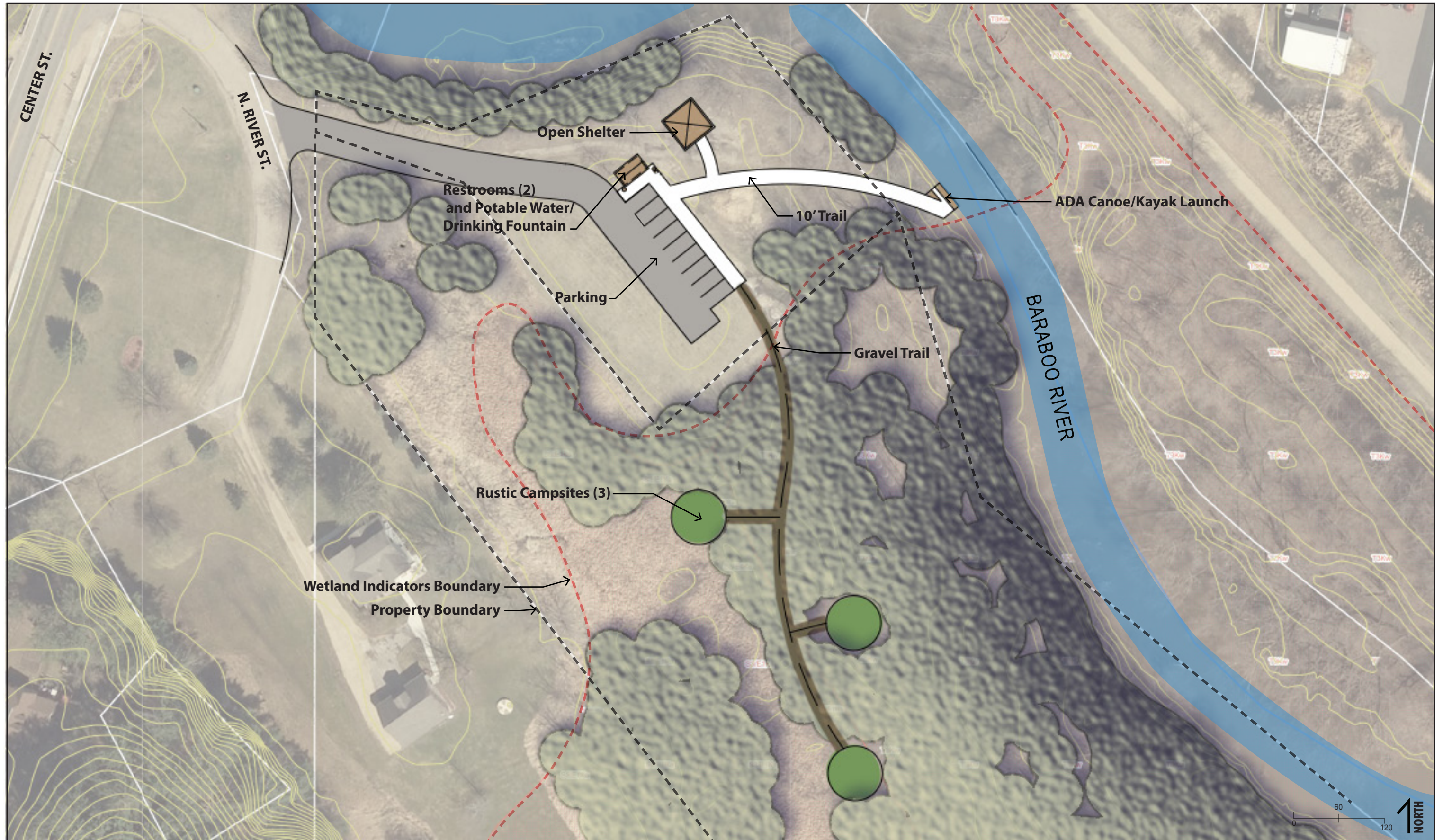
Jodie Kay Busser Memorial Park Concept Plan

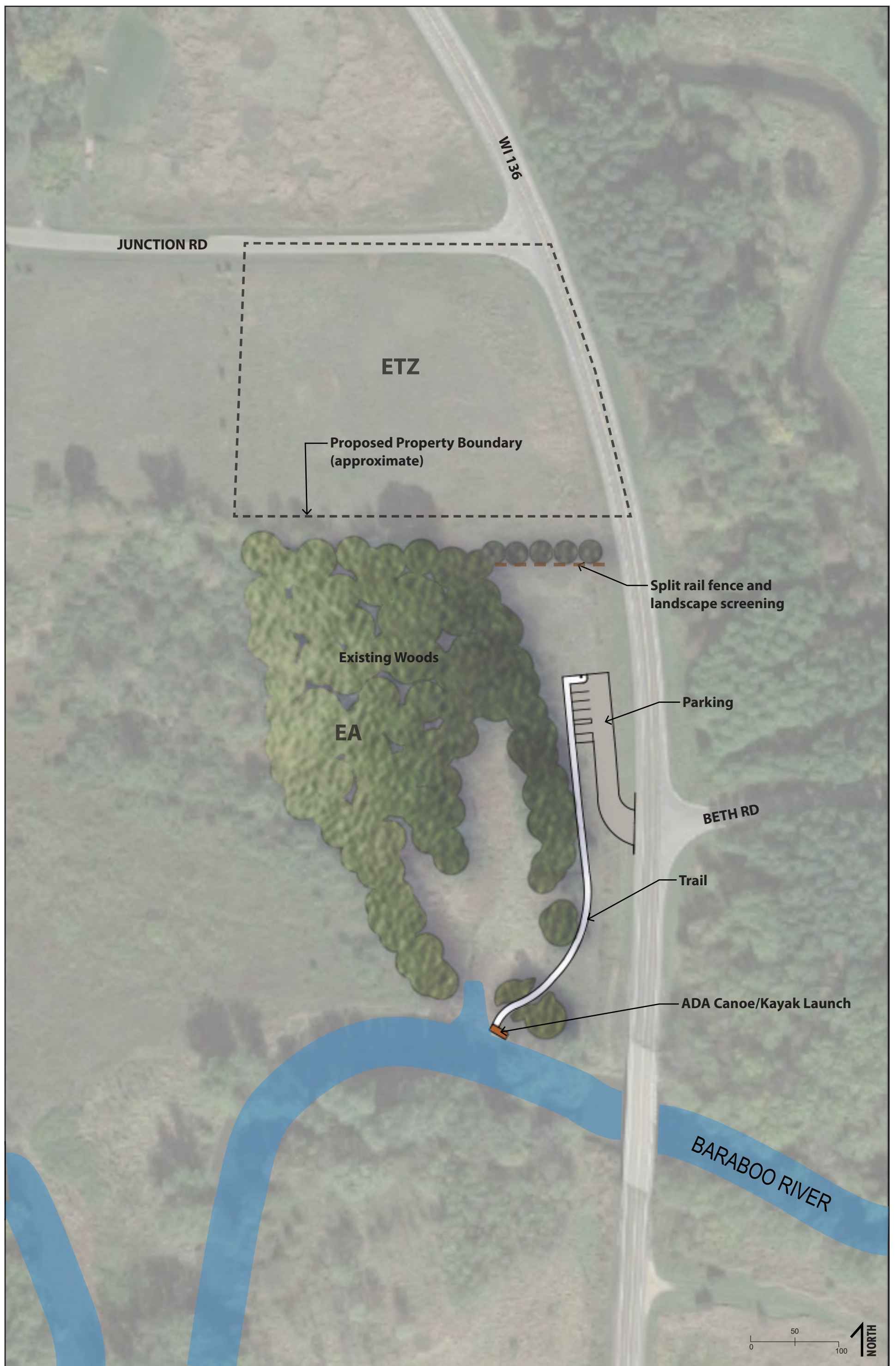


Baraboo River Access

La Valle, WI
3/6/2019

N. River St. Launch Concept Plan





Baraboo River Access

Wonewoc, WI
3/6/2019

Lost District Canoe Landing Launch Concept Plan - 1



Baraboo River Access

Wonewoc, WI
3/6/2019

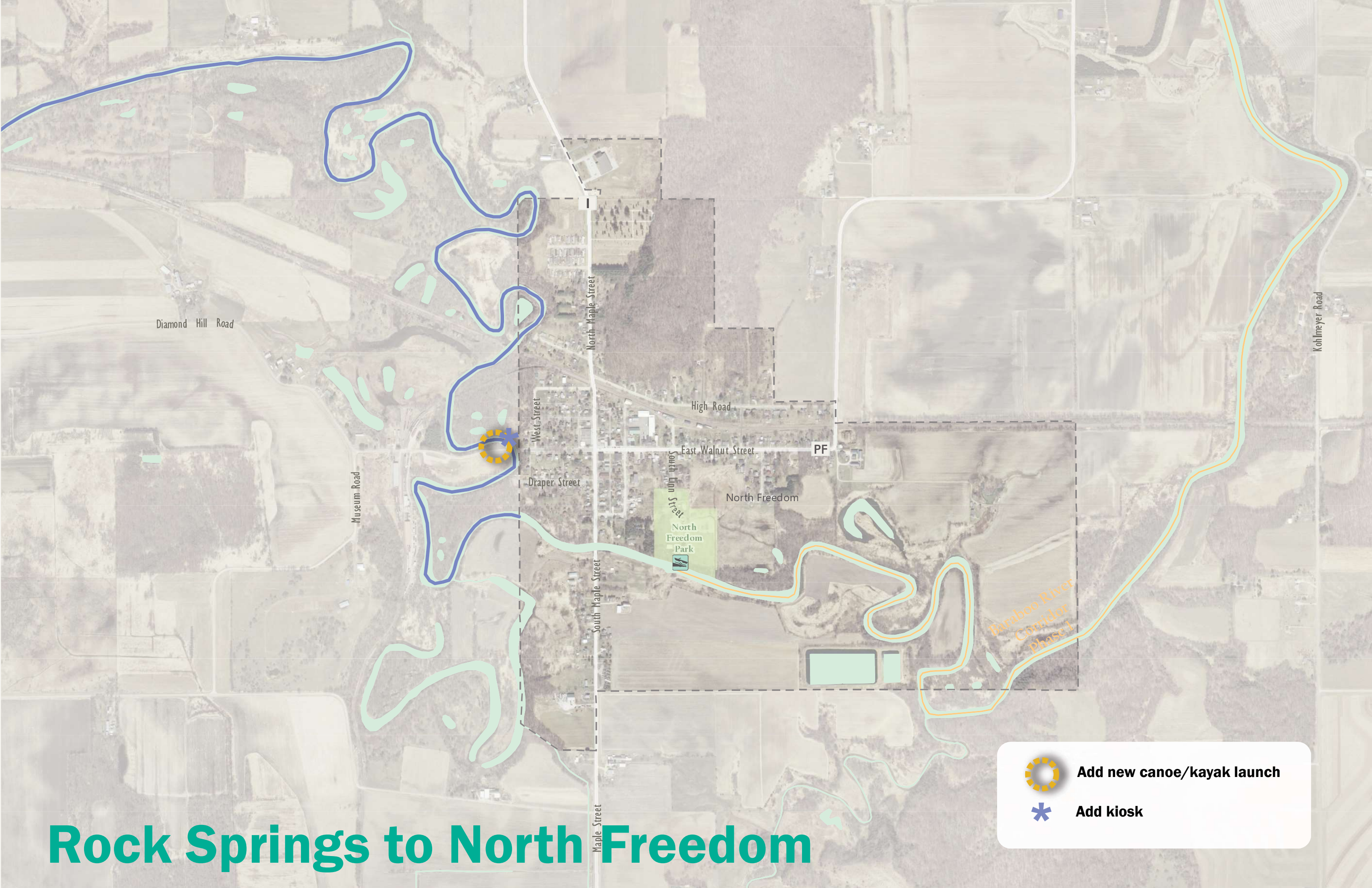
Lost District Canoe Landing Launch Concept Plan - 2



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C

*Community
Specific
Recommendations*



Diamond Hill Road

Museum Road

North Maple Street

West Street

Draper Street

South Maple Street

Maple Street

High Road

East Walnut Street

PF

North Freedom

North Freedom Park



Kohlmeyer Road

Baraboo River Corridor Phase 1



Add new canoe/kayak launch



Add kiosk





Rock Springs to North Freedom




Rock Springs

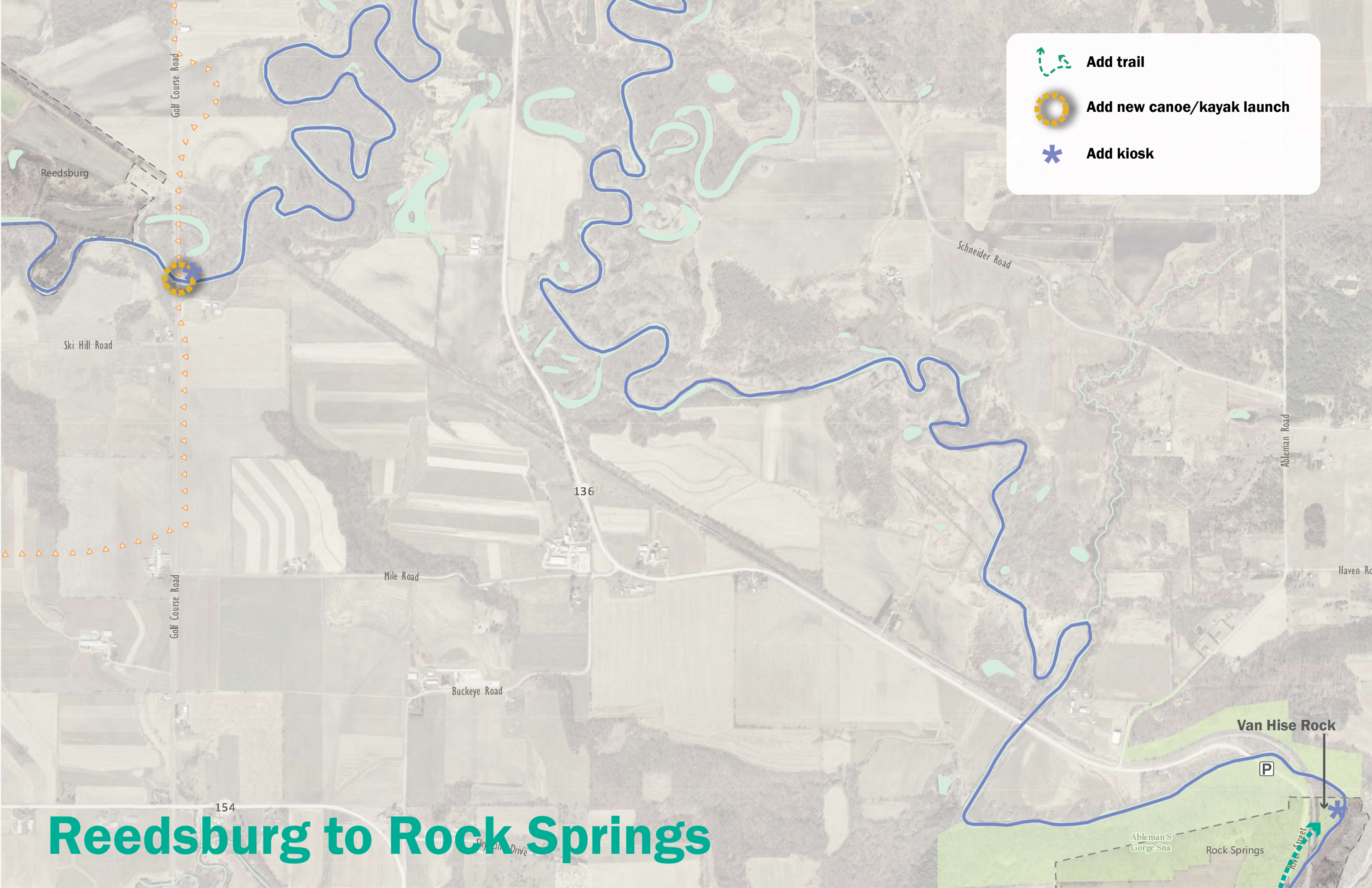


The paddle from Rock Springs to North Freedom is easy paddling with gentle current and minor log jams. In addition to the River, there are many family-friendly recreational draws within Rock Springs including Ableman's Gorge State Natural Area, Van Hise Rock, several artesian wells, Big Cat Rescue, and also the Mid-Continent Railway Museum in North Freedom. The addition of a river walk within Rock Springs would safely connect all of its recreation amenities and provide a relaxing path near the water for residents and visitors to walk or bike.

The conceptual site plan for Judy Kay Busser Memorial Park (see Chapter 4) includes improvements such as campsites, playground equipment, a fishing pier, park shelter and grills. This gives visitors the option of staying overnight and taking in all of the activities Rock Springs offers. To help bolster tourism, Rock Springs should consider recruiting a Bed and Breakfast or small motel and a sit-down family restaurant. Any other businesses that would support recreation activities or tourists would be welcome additions in Rock Springs.

-  Add trail
-  Improve existing canoe/kayak launch
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

-  **Add trail**
-  **Add new canoe/kayak launch**
-  **Add kiosk**



Reedsburg to Rock Springs

Golf Course Road

Reedsburg

Ski Hill Road

Golf Course Road

Mile Road

Buckeye Road

136

Schneider Road

Ableman Road

Haven Road

154

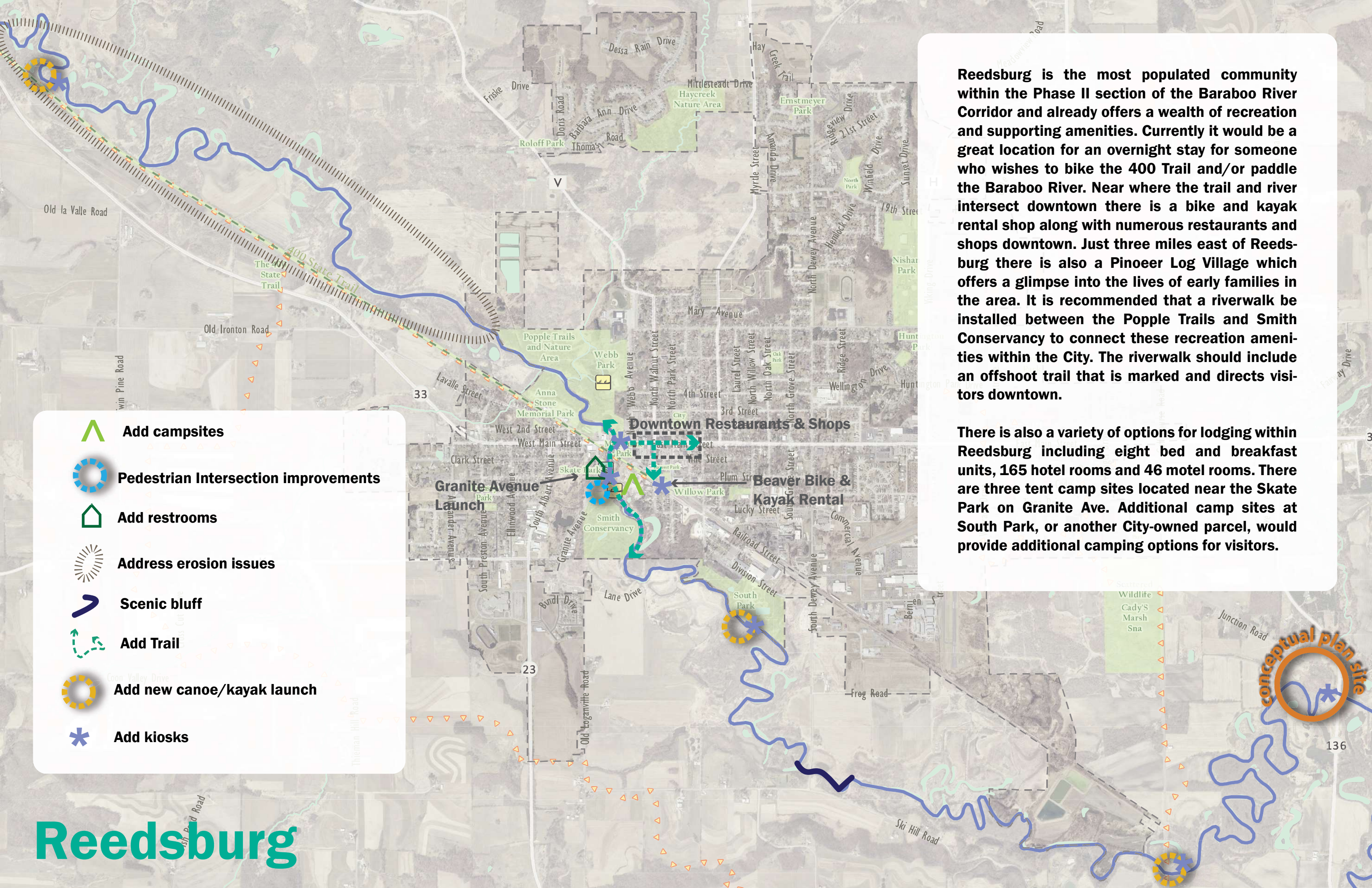
Van Hise Rock









P

Ableman's Gorge Sna

Rock Springs

Van Hise Street



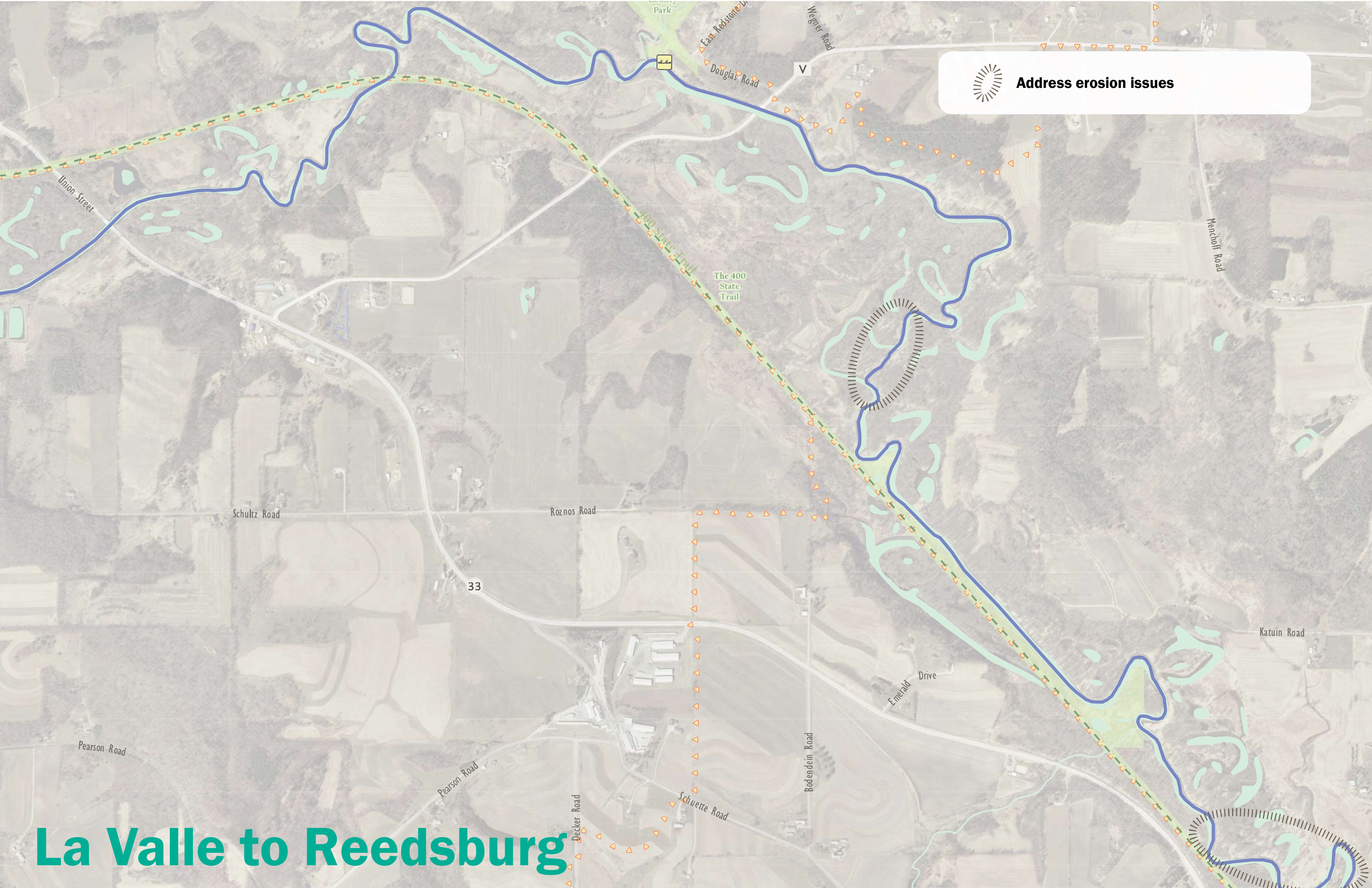
-  **Add campsites**
-  **Pedestrian Intersection improvements**
-  **Add restrooms**
-  **Address erosion issues**
-  **Scenic bluff**
-  **Add Trail**
-  **Add new canoe/kayak launch**
-  **Add kiosks**


Reedsburg is the most populated community within the Phase II section of the Baraboo River Corridor and already offers a wealth of recreation and supporting amenities. Currently it would be a great location for an overnight stay for someone who wishes to bike the 400 Trail and/or paddle the Baraboo River. Near where the trail and river intersect downtown there is a bike and kayak rental shop along with numerous restaurants and shops downtown. Just three miles east of Reedsburg there is also a Pineoer Log Village which offers a glimpse into the lives of early families in the area. It is recommended that a riverwalk be installed between the Popple Trails and Smith Conservancy to connect these recreation amenities within the City. The riverwalk should include an offshoot trail that is marked and directs visitors downtown.

There is also a variety of options for lodging within Reedsburg including eight bed and breakfast units, 165 hotel rooms and 46 motel rooms. There are three tent camp sites located near the Skate Park on Granite Ave. Additional camp sites at South Park, or another City-owned parcel, would provide additional camping options for visitors.

Reedsburg

conceptual plan site



 **Address erosion issues**

La Valle to Reedsburg

Union Street

County Park
East Redstone Dr
Douglas Road

Wegner Road

Menchoff Road

400 State Trail
The 400 State Trail

Schultz Road

Roznos Road

33

Katuin Road

Pearson Road

Pearson Road

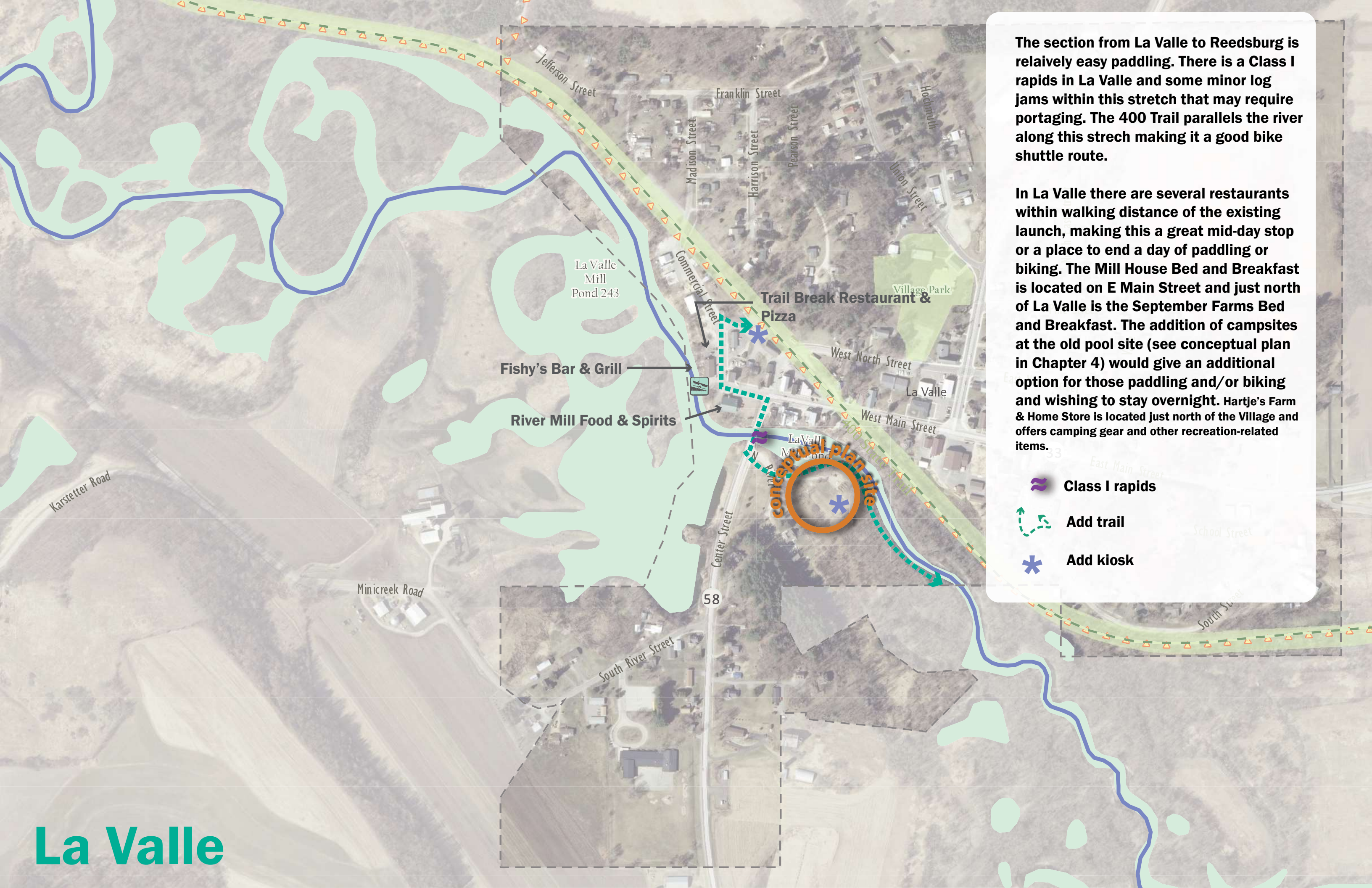
Decker Road

Schuette Road

Bodenhein Road

Emerald Drive

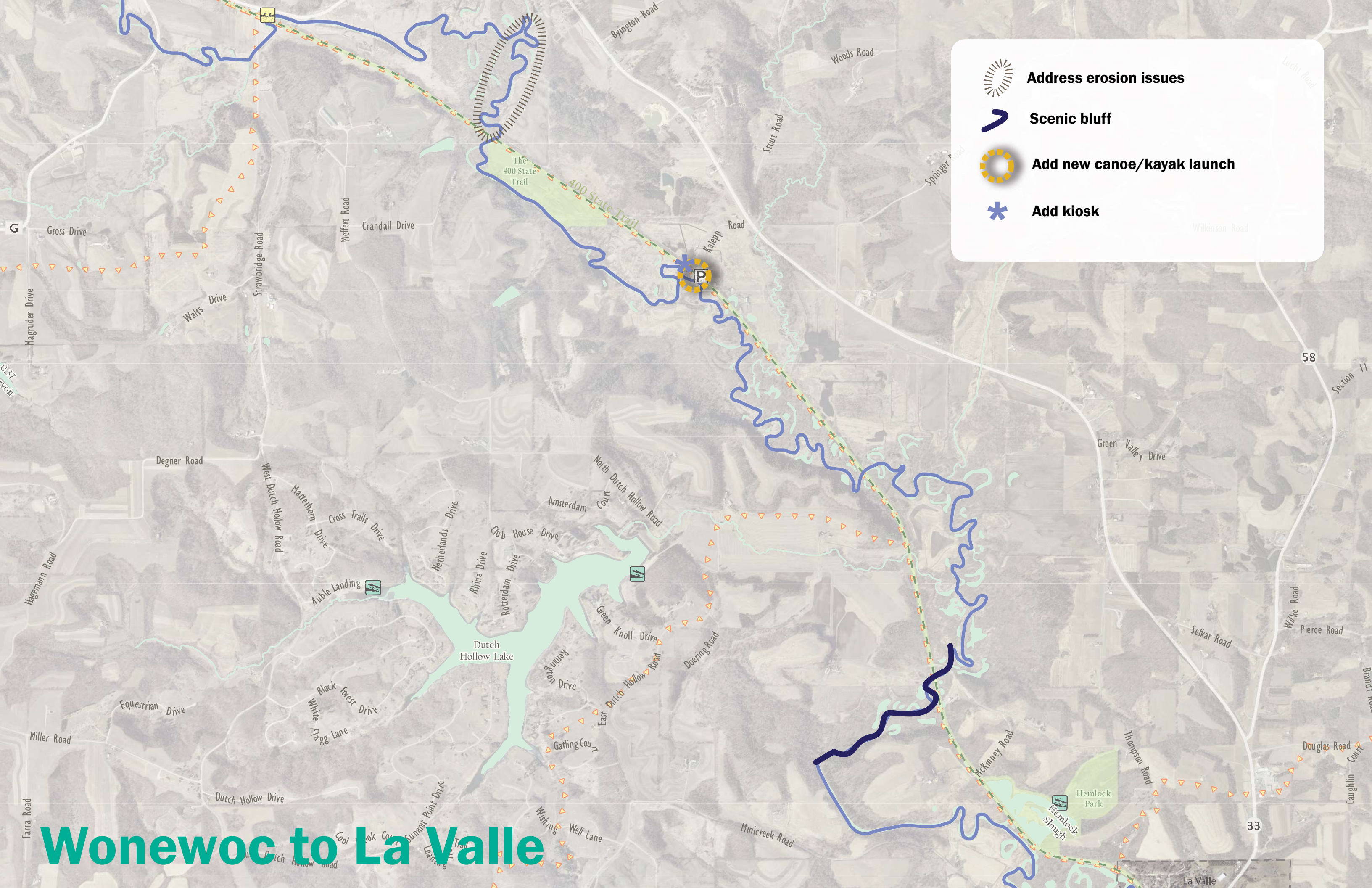
La Valle







The section from La Valle to Reedsburg is relatively easy paddling. There is a Class I rapids in La Valle and some minor log jams within this stretch that may require portaging. The 400 Trail parallels the river along this stretch making it a good bike shuttle route.

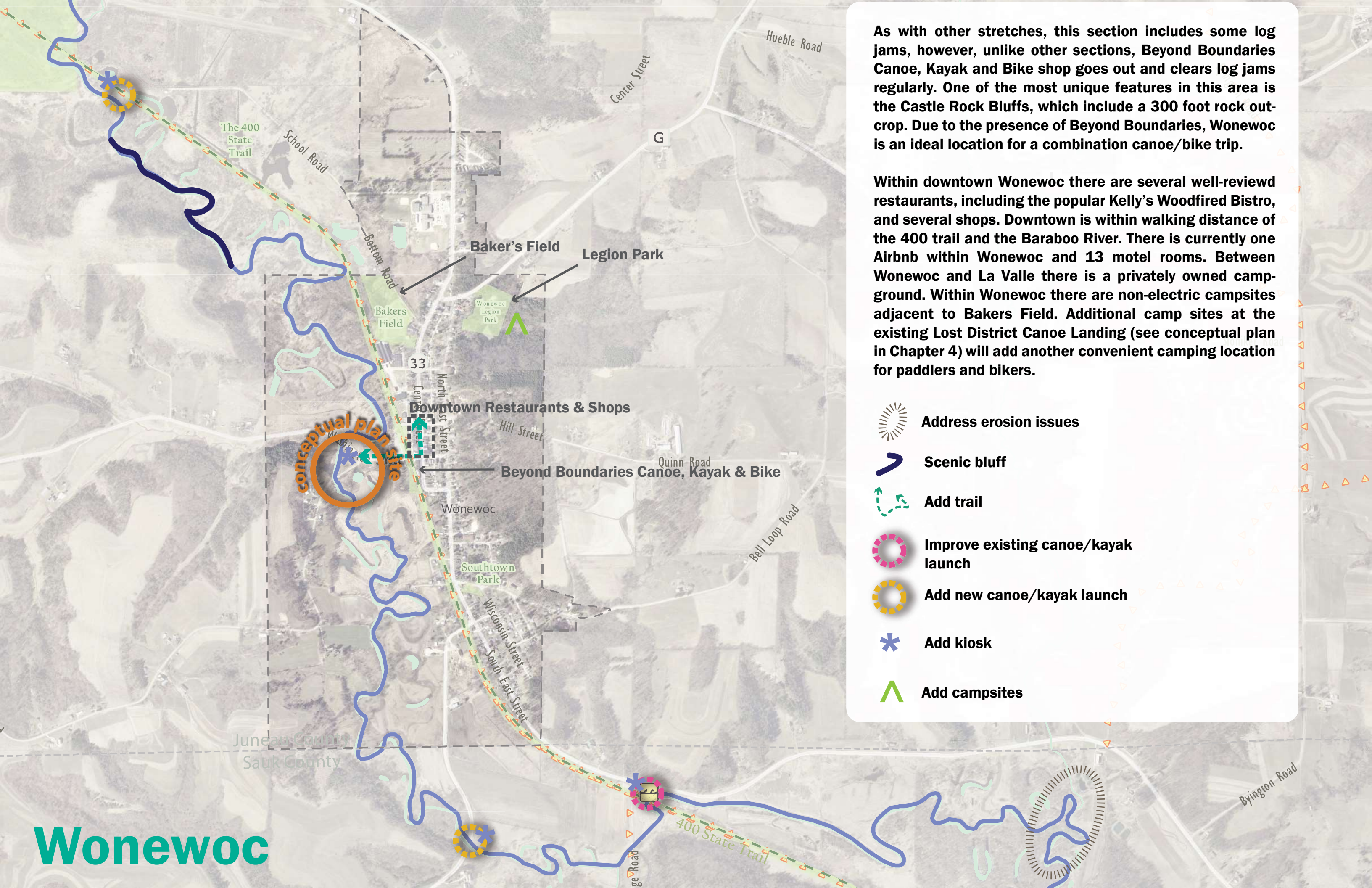
In La Valle there are several restaurants within walking distance of the existing launch, making this a great mid-day stop or a place to end a day of paddling or biking. The Mill House Bed and Breakfast is located on E Main Street and just north of La Valle is the September Farms Bed and Breakfast. The addition of campsites at the old pool site (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) would give an additional option for those paddling and/or biking and wishing to stay overnight. Hartje's Farm & Home Store is located just north of the Village and offers camping gear and other recreation-related items.

-  Class I rapids
-  Add trail
-  Add kiosk










-  **Address erosion issues**
-  **Scenic bluff**
-  **Add new canoe/kayak launch**
-  **Add kiosk**

Wonewoc to La Valle



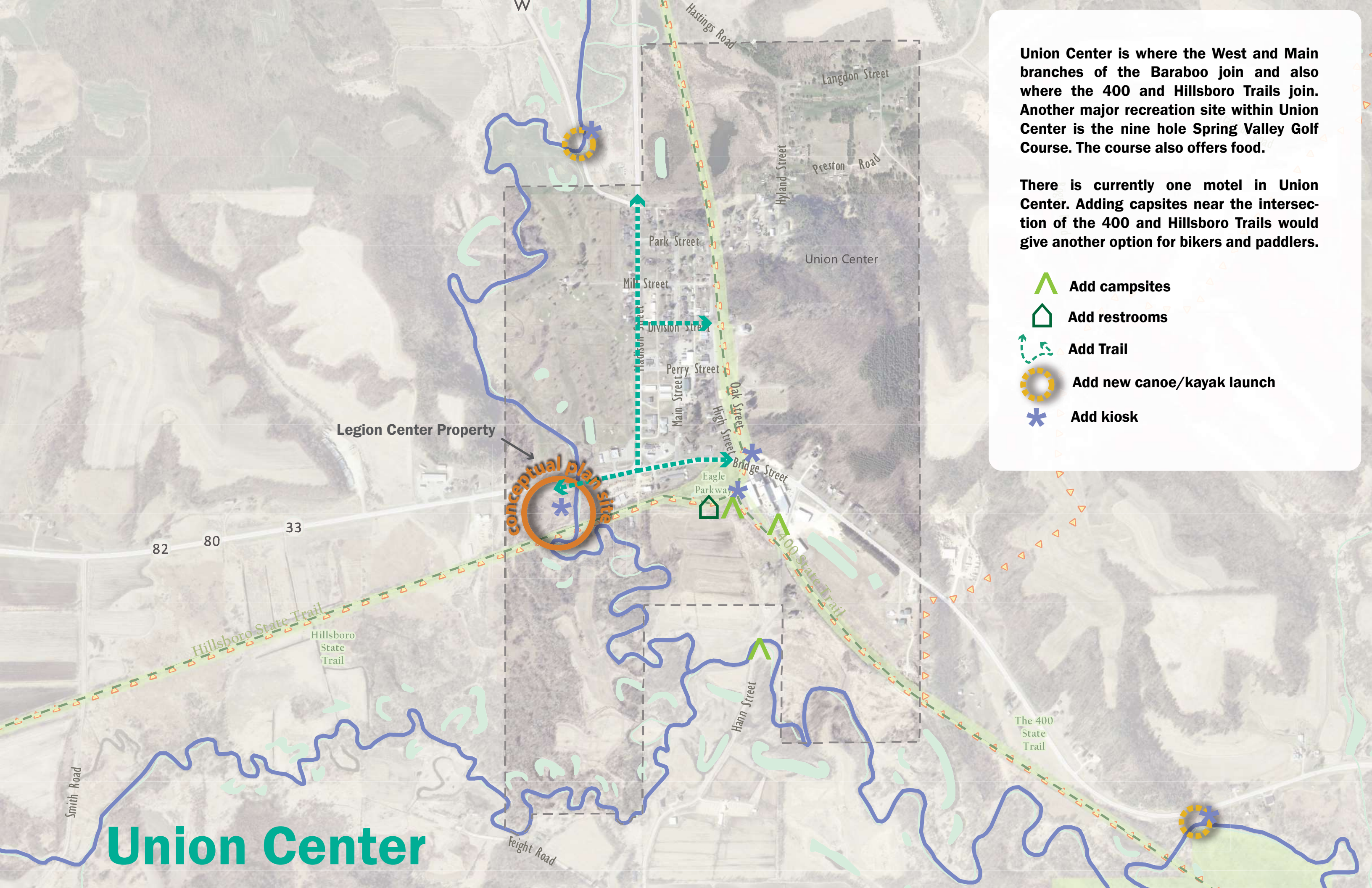
As with other stretches, this section includes some log jams, however, unlike other sections, Beyond Boundaries Canoe, Kayak and Bike shop goes out and clears log jams regularly. One of the most unique features in this area is the Castle Rock Bluffs, which include a 300 foot rock outcrop. Due to the presence of Beyond Boundaries, Wonewoc is an ideal location for a combination canoe/bike trip.

Within downtown Wonewoc there are several well-reviewed restaurants, including the popular Kelly's Woodfired Bistro, and several shops. Downtown is within walking distance of the 400 trail and the Baraboo River. There is currently one Airbnb within Wonewoc and 13 motel rooms. Between Wonewoc and La Valle there is a privately owned campground. Within Wonewoc there are non-electric campsites adjacent to Bakers Field. Additional camp sites at the existing Lost District Canoe Landing (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) will add another convenient camping location for paddlers and bikers.

-  Address erosion issues
-  Scenic bluff
-  Add trail
-  Improve existing canoe/kayak launch
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk
-  Add campsites






Wonewoc

Union Center

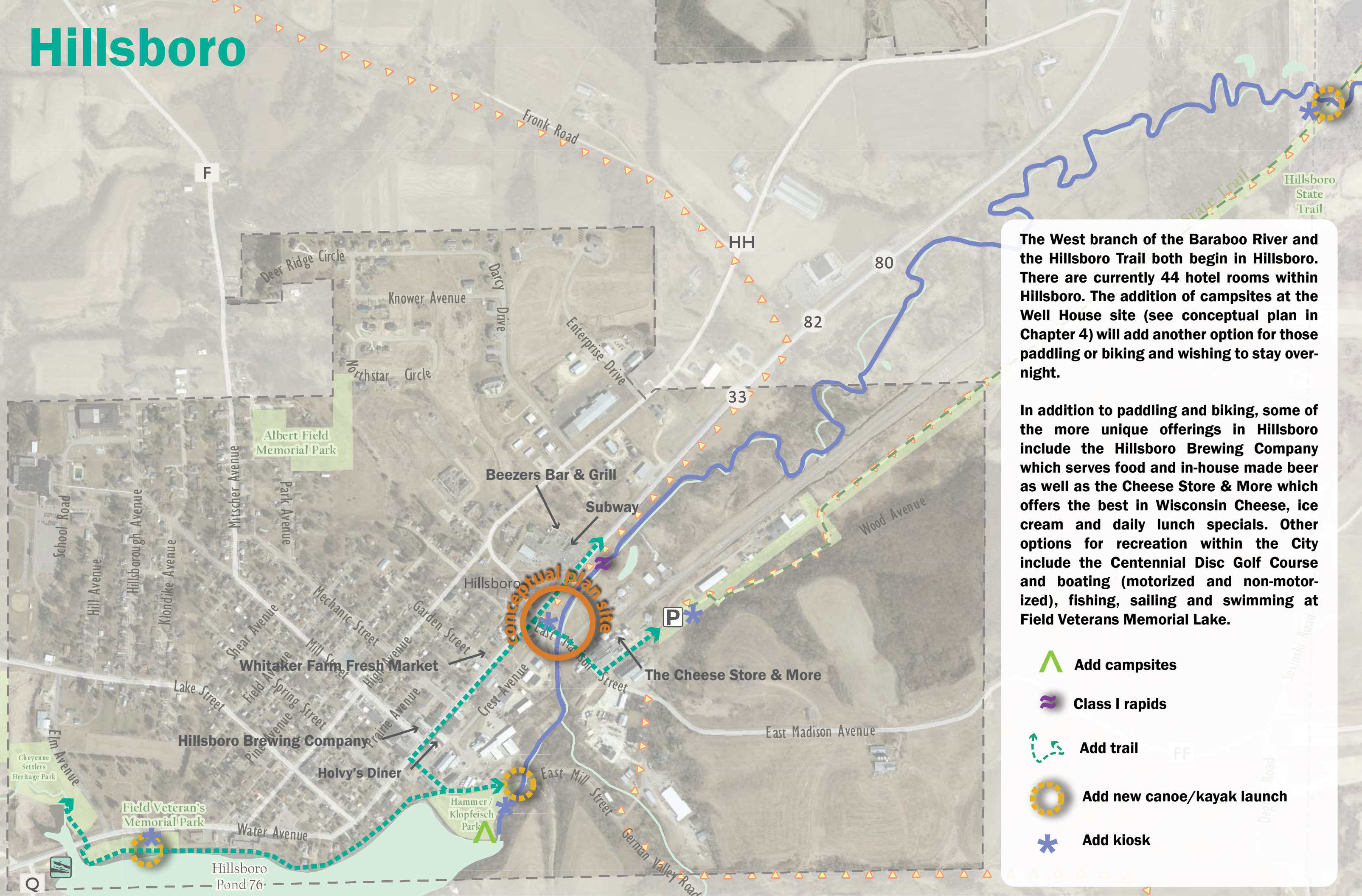


Union Center is where the West and Main branches of the Baraboo join and also where the 400 and Hillsboro Trails join. Another major recreation site within Union Center is the nine hole Spring Valley Golf Course. The course also offers food.

There is currently one motel in Union Center. Adding campsites near the intersection of the 400 and Hillsboro Trails would give another option for bikers and paddlers.






-  Add campsites
-  Add restrooms
-  Add Trail
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

Hillsboro

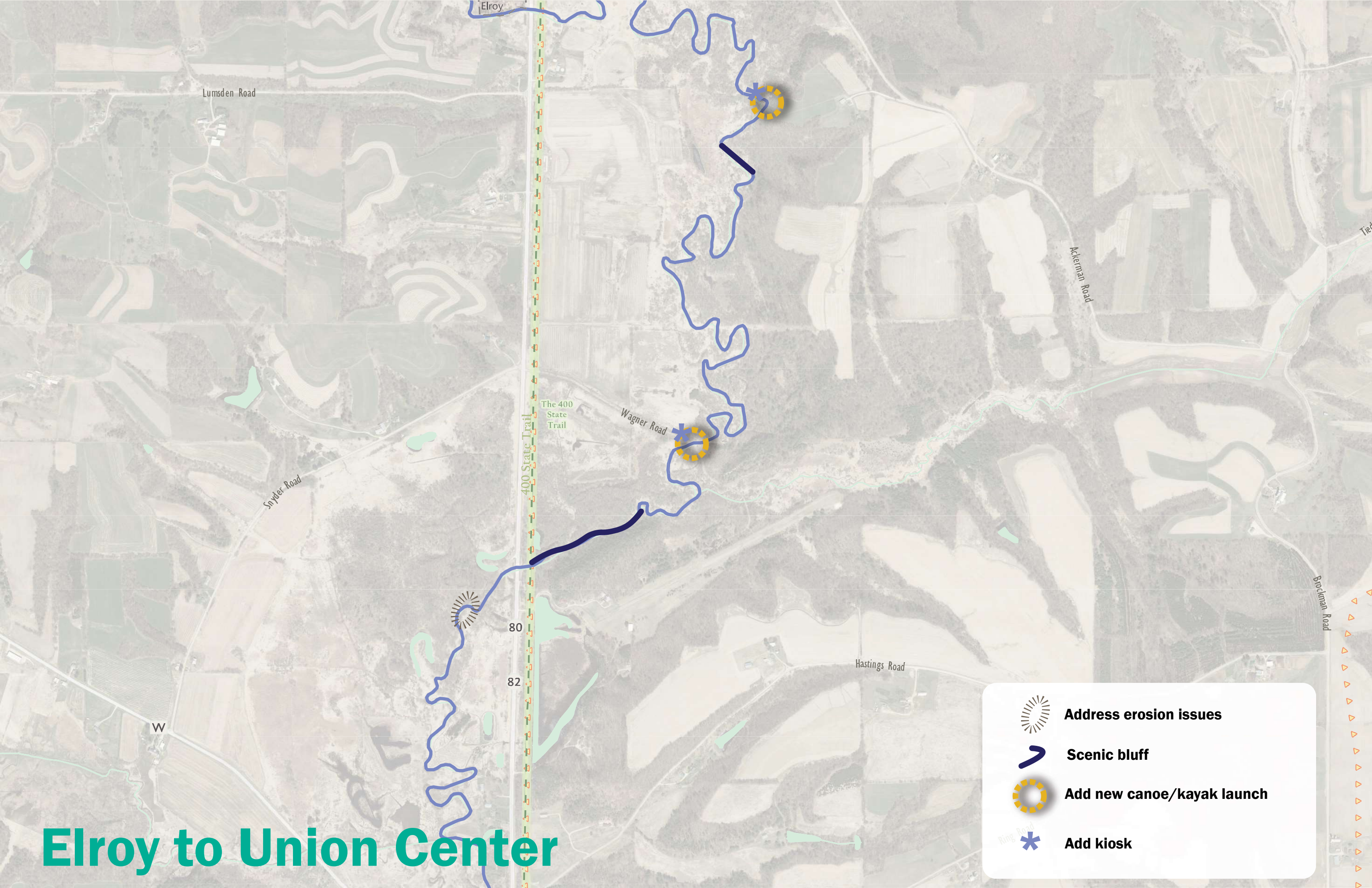






The West branch of the Baraboo River and the Hillsboro Trail both begin in Hillsboro. There are currently 44 hotel rooms within Hillsboro. The addition of campsites at the Well House site (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4) will add another option for those paddling or biking and wishing to stay overnight.

In addition to paddling and biking, some of the more unique offerings in Hillsboro include the Hillsboro Brewing Company which serves food and in-house made beer as well as the Cheese Store & More which offers the best in Wisconsin Cheese, ice cream and daily lunch specials. Other options for recreation within the City include the Centennial Disc Golf Course and boating (motorized and non-motorized), fishing, sailing and swimming at Field Veterans Memorial Lake.

-  Add campsites
-  Class I rapids
-  Add trail
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

Elroy to Union Center



-  Address erosion issues
-  Scenic bluff
-  Add new canoe/kayak launch
-  Add kiosk

Lumsden Road

Elroy

Snyder Road

400 State Trail

The 400 State Trail

Wagner Road

Hastings Road

Ackerman Road

Grockman Road

W





80

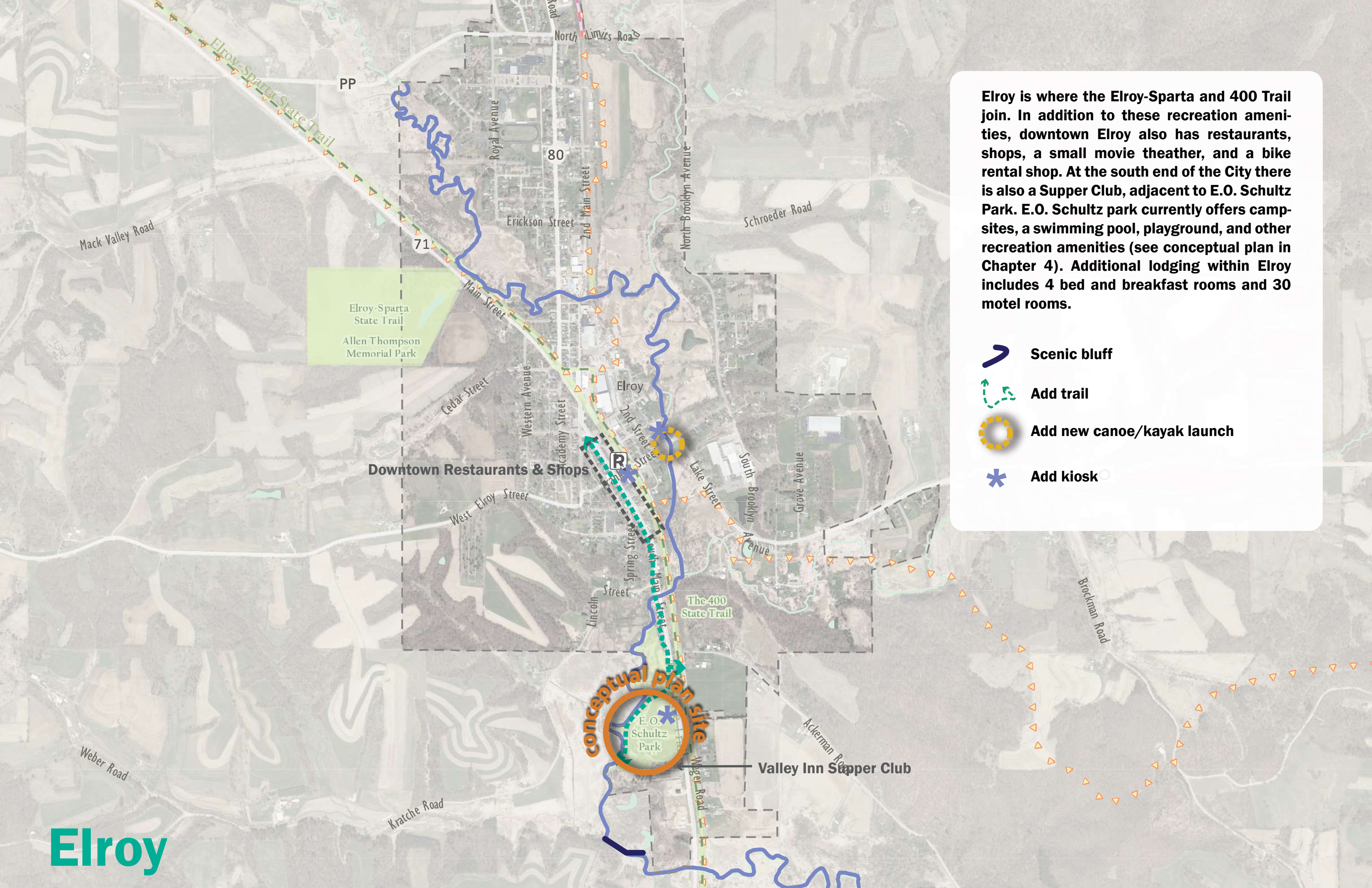
82

Add new canoe/kayak launch

Add kiosk

Elroy is where the Elroy-Sparta and 400 Trail join. In addition to these recreation amenities, downtown Elroy also has restaurants, shops, a small movie theater, and a bike rental shop. At the south end of the City there is also a Supper Club, adjacent to E.O. Schultz Park. E.O. Schultz park currently offers campsites, a swimming pool, playground, and other recreation amenities (see conceptual plan in Chapter 4). Additional lodging within Elroy includes 4 bed and breakfast rooms and 30 motel rooms.

-  **Scenic bluff**
-  **Add trail**
-  **Add new canoe/kayak launch**
-  **Add kiosk**



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D

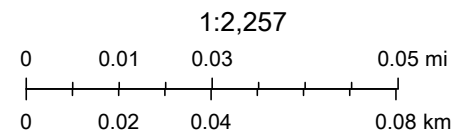
*Other
Supporting
Documents*

Hillsboro Lake Walk (FVM Park) Concept



2/26/2019, 10:37:07 AM

 City Boundary



Wonewoc/Union Center's Baraboo River Recreation Corridor Committee (WBRRCC) Meetings

(5/3/18 7:30 pm at Wonewoc Village Hall, 6/5/18 7:30p WVH (@BB), Mon 7/2/18 7pm Union Center VH, Mon 8/20/18 7:30p WVH in preparation for Focus Group Meeting on August 28th, 2018)

(Attendees: Nick Baldwin, Brandi Pollard-Jones, Duane Tracey, Alexis Miller, Jarrod Ertel, Marcin Kuhiwicek, Jon Baker, Staci Mortimer, Al Scott, Colleen Beier)

Determined Best Future Meeting Times: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

(Notes 2nd/3rd Mon No for Dewey; Thursday pm's No for Jarrod; 2nd Thurs No for Jon-UC Village Mtg; 4th Weds are Wonewoc Village Mtg)

Wonewoc/Union Center's Baraboo River Recreation Corridor Committee (WUBRRCC) Meetings

General

Discussion that these are the start of plan dreams or ideal situations to be considered & discussed further for the Baraboo River Recreation Corridor (BRRC) Plan for Wonewoc or Union Center to be reviewed with citizens in Wonewoc's & Union Center's area of the BRRC for possible inclusion in the MSA Phase II Baraboo River Recreational Corridor plan & future grant opportunities. Our goal would be to readily receive community input on such visions as well as receive other ideas from within our communities. Really just kicking around some ideas that would be positive improvements for Wonewoc & Union Center meant for the good of our Villages.

As Ideal Village Improvements are mentioned, the group is keeping in mind the required maintenance & upkeep that comes with any added improvements such as walkways or camping facilities.

Possibly consider the small Villages of Wonewoc and Union Center specifically designate a particular grant fund amount for a Wonewoc (and Union Center) Baraboo River Recreational Corridor Improvements Endowment Fund to be established & maintained by the Village-falling under the Parks & Recreation Annual Budget as well as possibly establish an annual goal of raising funds for this via a Wonewoc non-profit such as the Lions Club similar to what Reedsburg does with the Area United Fund or Elroy Lions Radio Days, etc that citizens & business owners and organizations know of & can contribute to on an annual basis.

River Landings or Docks:

ADA Canoe/Kayak Launch/Dock to be installed at existing Lost District Canoe Landing (LDCL) in Village of Wonewoc-Basis of Corridor Project, MSA will review needs for plan

Other Improvements at LDCL:

- Signage Improvements-Direct Visitors to Downtown & Businesses, Village Amenities (Parks, Camping, Restrooms, etc), Baraboo River Recreational Corridor Signage for National Water Trail & Photo-Op/Selfie sign for social media marketing

-Tent Camping Only 3 spots max at Landing Area (to allow for "on river" camping for multi-day trips)-See Camping Amenities Addressed Below

-Improvements to Restroom Facility-existing small Porta-Potty that is not clean often, small, non-ADA, issues in flooding

-Improvements to Parking Lot

Possibility of Non-ADA Canoe/Kayak Landing and/or Fishing Dock at Strawbridge Rd./ Hwy 33 intersection Location before Wonewoc

-Understood the need for coordination with Woodland Township

-Already has 400 Trail Parking & 400 Trail Access

-Has Natural Spring, Natural Rock Formation

-Known Historically as "Fairy Dell"

Alternate to Strawbridge Possibility of Non-ADA Canoe/Kayak Landing or Fishing Dock at Location before Strawbridge

-Already a popular fishing spot

-Near Dave Laubscher's/Robert Taft's Property-coordination with Land Owners required

Possibility of Non-ADA Canoe/Kayak Landing and/or Fishing Dock at W-C School (Outdoor Learning Area) OLA

-Understood the need for coordination with the W-C School District & their rules/regulations & permitted use, etc

-Third Castle Rock Formation Appeal

-Better Connection to the OLA for school groups, church groups,etc

Union Center ADA Canoe/Kayak Landing possible locations to be reviewed by MSA.

-Currently put in under the HWY 33 bridge adjacent to Spring Valley Golf Course

-Farther up river along Golf Course is property originally for the Union Center Legion, then Legion dissipated and merged into the Elroy Legion, so the Elroy Legion owns the property with baraboo river frontage and a beautiful bluff hidden by the overgrowth of trees-landing location possibility considered by Juneau County reps-discussed the possible use of high golf-course netting to protect the landing area though the # of golf balls on that piece of land from the years is low so seems not in direct aim of any specific hole

-Having an agreement/team to clear out some of the wooded area would help make the bluff view more pronounced as a draw for both the river put-in and the golf course

-Other possibilities down river -verify with Joe Lally and Ray Feldman from Juneau County (Winchel property, etc)

Coordinate with Union Center & Engineering Team on possible Canoe/Kayak Landing/Dock between two Villages (6 River Miles, not as necessary-Dock at OLA at 3/4 way could be the best solution)

Coordinate with Lavalle & Engineering Team on additional Canoe/Kayak Landing/Dock between two Villages (xx River Miles-more necessary)

Improved Walkway Connection from Baraboo River Lost District Canoe Landing to Downtown Wonewoc/Center Street

(in Union Center: From Final Improved Landing Location in Union Center to existing food establishments, etc)

-Connection needed to get people from the River to our Downtown for more direct impact on Economic Development

-Connection also to increase traffic from the "400" Bike Trail to our Downtown/Center street

-Existing yet very diminished sidewalk on South Side of Washington Street to be replaced/improved so that River users do not have to walk on the road to get to downtown business district

-More Pleasant 2-Block Walkway (Something much more simple in lieu of River Walks that Baraboo & Wisconsin Dells have done and Reedsburg would like to do---But STILL Appealing)-Signage, Flowers/Native Plants, ?Stamped Concrete, ?Painted Sidewalk Art depicting natural river area to bike trail to historic downtown

-Example item of what a specific Wonewoc BRRC Endowment Fund would be needed for to maintain

-Union Center needs something highlightin/leading toward Golf course & restaurant, Holy Cow, Center Tap, Village Hall, etc from where final ADA landing placement would occur

Camping Amenities to Be Addressed as a High Priority:

-Overall would like to improve and increase camping amenities within the Village of Wonewoc due to lack of places to stay overnight within the Village & appeal to outdoor recreating visitors. Goal to make them serviceable and create a pleasant place to stay.

-Need better signage within Village to direct visitors to designated camping areas (many people unaware as they stop into Beyond Boundaries or into Fast Trip gas station)

-Discuss program to better receive the small fee payments for camping facilities, especially on Weekends when Village Hall is closed (such as 4x4 posts with pay envelopes/drop box)

Camping at Legion Park, Wonewoc

- Already established and in operation with Three designated spots with electric and water utilities and open area for tent camping

-Add electric utility access in Open area or add spots

-Possible location for future formal licensing due to municipal pool building with Showers, Restroom Facilities, Shelters, Pool (though all requiring repair or replacement) for increased # of sites out in open field area

Camping at "400" Trail/ Baker's Field, Wonewoc

-Existing Free Campsite Area on Side of Trail Opposite of Baker's Field-marketed in "400" Trail Brochure

-Need to solve the wet ground issue- Add fill to change topographic elevations, Build Three elevated platforms/Decks for tents , or move locations closer to Baker's Field

Camping at Baker's Field, Wonewoc

-New Tent Sites In Baker's Field Park located beyond the ball field (Three)

-New RV/Camper Electric sites at Parking Lot (Review RV dump needs? What does Dennis at Chapparral do or Mirror Lake/Wildcat Mountain have designated spots, ?gas stations also have this?) Update: may negate added RV as new entity in Union Center purchased old airport land for a private campground business to start

-Seems not many restrictions in deed from Dr. Baker to the Village

Camping at Lost District Canoe Landing (LDCL), Wonewoc

- Allow three tent-camping spots
- Have Shelter with picnic tables and grills already
- Have electric on site already

Camping at Southtown Park, Wonewoc

- Last resort option/overflow option for three tent sites

Camping at OLA, Wonewoc

- Possibility of three designated tent-camping spots
- Group camping
- Understood the need for coordination with the W-C School District & their rules/regulations & permitted use, etc
- Better Connection to the OLA for school groups, school clubs, youth organizations, church groups, etc
- Third Castle Appeal

Other Accommodations Wonewoc:

- Highlight existing and future Airbnb establishments in Wonewoc
- Highlight Wonewoc Spiritualist Camp & Cabin options

Union Center Camping: Possible 3-site Camping Option at the Union Center Park

- The Village owns quite a bit of field (?behind the sewer plant?)
- Land from Land-O-Lakes for sale offered to Village as an opportunity-Possibly a location for camping with a shower/toilet facility (Three acres currently for sale)
- A Gentleman purchased a lot across from Center Tap as investment property-what might he be able/willing to do there?

Other Accommodations Union Center:

- Union Center does have a motel-Garden City Motel owned by Marty Koenecke (# rooms=?_)
- Private Campground start-up in progress -Aaron M.
- Highlight possibilities for Airbnb accommodations

Recreational Amenities/Park Improvements

- Parks established long ago, in need of maintenance, equipment repairs, and equipment replacement to best service those utilizing the Baraboo River Recreational Corridor Amenities within our Villages

Baker's Field Amenity Needs, Wonewoc

- Improved & Replaced Playground Equipment Needed (Was part of Village's 3-Park Plan w/ Legion Park & Southtown done--need \$\$)
- (Dirt)Fill for the Baker's Field Baseball Field with improved water run-off
- Improved Baseball/Softball or Wiffle Ball Field facilities (bases, lines, etc)
- Sand Volleyball Court(s) incorporated (to appeal to Area summer leagues as well as campers and residents)
- Disc Golf on-site
- Improved/Replaced Concession Stand facilities within the existing shelter
- Small Amphitheater within outskirts of park to accommodate multiple activities including concerts, ..outdoor relaxation & yoga exercises,

-Possibly establish a program with the Library to allow residents & visitors to check out equipment (ie: tennis, basketball, etc) for use at the park with a deposit that is returned when the item is brought back.

Legion Park Amenity Needs, Wonewoc

- Pool Replacement most ideal- Just this week All Concrete falling in on the sides just a few weeks before the summer season starts
- Better Bathroom Facility (currently Pit Toilets?)
- Better Shower Facility (?Re-model that Municipal Pool Building?)
- Possible Small Amphitheater here
- Shelter Repairs
- Camping Amenity Improvements Addressed
- Has newer Play Equipment that was around \$11,000

Southtown Park Amenity Needs, Wonewoc

- Has newer Play Equipment that was around \$6/\$7,000
- Has a shelter

Union Center Park Amenity Needs, Union Center

- Have Shelter, Water & Restroom Facilities Playground Equipment, Sand Volleyball, Horse Shoes, Historic Original Union Center Jail House display
- WI DNR owns 400 Trail toilet facility and provides some supplies, Village maintains it and provides some supplies as well

Wonewoc/Union Center Specific Marketing & Promotion

- Need for Marketing with Wonewoc to participate as much as possible in the National Water Trail marketing & BRRC Marketing
- See what overall Marketing Grants would be applied for with the Marketing Study Done
- Other Promotions: Such as a Professional Triathlon Event, Sponsored Events, Concerts,
- History of Union Center, Wonewoc, River & Bluffs public project related to the Corridor
- To be discussed further

Wonewoc/Union Center ATV/UTV Recreational Use

- Would like to support ATV Recreational Use within Wonewoc's portion of the River Corridor
- Support the possible bridge restoration at Bottom Road between Union Center/Wonewoc as a priority for plan: Highlighted priority for this bridge restoration for multi-use-atv, runners, hikers, etc. This will appeal to other citizens not necessarily interested in the River use in the Corridor
- Promote the recent change to allow ATV on our highway roads within the Village
- Encourage Waffles to rent ATV's or other?
- Market ATV use for our area

Village Entrances via Highway 33 & Overall Village Appeal:

In Wonewoc-Improved Welcome signage that's more visible and integrates our part in The Baraboo River Corridor
Information about River Corridor also provided in signage at Baker's Field & Legion Park

In Union Center-

PRIME BRRC signage at the intersection of 82/80/33, signage located a few 100 feet after intersection in all 3 directions (Esp. since Union Center, Hillsboro, Elroy & Wonewoc are part of BRRC and that intersection is the route to all 4

Business/Downtown Coordination

-In Union Center, Daryl Becker owns the 2 business buildings

-Sponsorship Opportunities

-Sponsor the Improved Entrances

-Sponsor Signage at the River, Parks, Village Entrances, & Intersections of 80/82/33

Wastewater Treatment Facility Needs

-Touch base with Dennis Laubscher, Shane Huebel

Fire Department Needs for Water Safety & Rescue

Wonewoc

Watercraft & Motor

Safety & Rescue Equipment (ropes, flotation, etc) , Clothing, Water Rescue classes & continuing education

Union Center