

2016 Grundy County REAP Survey

Grundy County Resource Enhancement And Protection Survey Findings

PREPARED BY:



INRCOG
Iowa Northland
Regional Council
Of Governments

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Background

In 2016 the Grundy County Conservation Board (GCCB) contracted with the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments (INRCOG) to develop a new five-year countywide Resource Enhancement And Protection (REAP) Plan. In development of this plan, the county REAP committee and the GCCB held a series of planning strategy meetings in the second half of 2016.

As part of the REAP planning effort, a countywide survey was commissioned to inquire county residents as to the types of recreational activities as well as the interest in and importance of various conservation and environmental concerns and initiatives to residents.

This report details the findings of the REAP survey.

REAP Background

In May of 1989, the Iowa Legislature established the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Act with overwhelming bipartisan support. REAP is a state program which, as the name implies, invests in the enhancement and protection of the state's natural and cultural resources. Iowa is fortunate to have a diverse array of natural and cultural resources, and REAP is likewise diverse and far-reaching. Depending on the individual programs, REAP provides money for projects through state agency budgets or in the form of grants. Several aspects of REAP also encourage private contributions that help accomplish program objectives.

REAP is funded from the state's Environment First Fund (Iowa gaming receipts) and from the sale of the natural resource license plate. The program is authorized to receive \$20 million per year through 2021, but the state legislature sets the funding amount each year. In Fiscal Year 2016, REAP was appropriated \$16 million. When added with REAP license plate revenue and interest income, the program's total budget was approximately \$16.5 million¹.

In its 26 years of existence, REAP has benefited every county in Iowa in supporting over 14,500 projects with more than \$264 million in investments; Grundy County has received over \$900,000 in REAP funds.

REAP Funding opportunities are broken-down into seven categories:

- Open space preservation
- Land conservation
- Land management
- Historical preservation
- Open space acquisition and development
- Native roadside vegetation
- Soil and water enhancement

¹ Iowa Department of Natural Resources, www.iowadnr.gov/conservation/reap

Research Method

In conjunction with the development of the county REAP plan, a public input survey was developed and conducted to solicit additional information from the public in regard to their recreational habits, interests, and opinions on various policies related to the REAP program and the Grundy County Conservation Board.

Multiple methods were used to notify county residents of the opportunity to take the survey.

A mailing list of Grundy County residents was purchased from the mailing list consultant Leads Please . Survey notification postcards with directions to and a link to the online survey were mailed to 650 county residents.

In addition, survey Posters and Mini-reminder postcards were sent to the following:

- Grundy County Courthouse
- Grundy County Conservation Board Office
- Cities of Beaman, Conrad, Dike, Grundy Center, Holland, Morrison, Reinbeck, Stout, and Wellsburg
- Dike Public Library, King Library of Grundy Center, and Reinbeck Public Library

The survey was conducted September through November 2016. In total, 129 surveys were completed. It is important to note that the survey was not designed to be statistically significant and strict interpretation of the results is cautioned. Surveys of this nature can also generate a response bias whereas persons interested in the subject participate at a higher frequency than those not as interested, which can influence results. This survey provides qualitative insight into participation, opinions and interests of residents, which can serve as a guide for decision-makers when considering future county initiatives.

In all, the survey consisted of eighteen questions divided between the four survey sections. These sections were:

- Section 1: Recreational Participation
- Section 2: Interests
- Section 3: Policy Priorities
- Section 4: Demographics

The results are presented by section and in the same order as the questions appeared on the survey. A copy of the survey questionnaire is located in Appendix 1.

Overview of Key Findings

Recreation Participation

- **The top recreational activities were passive in nature** - The three activities with the highest rate of participation were Walking (98 percent), Other family oriented activities - other than picnicking or cooking out (82 percent) and Picnicking or cooking out (77 percent).
- **Bicycling was popular activity for many** - Among the more active recreational options, those with the highest rate of participation included: Bicycling in town or short distances (70 percent), Bicycling regional trails (59 percent), and Swimming (53 percent).
- **Grundy County Lake is the county's most popular park** – An impressive 78 percent of households reported to have visited the park at least once in the past year.
- **Visitors keep returning to Grundy County Lake** – Over half (51 percent) of households reported that they had visited Grundy County Lake three or more times in the previous year.

Interests

- **People are interested in using recreation trails** - Fifty-five (55) percent of households said that they were either Very Interested or Somewhat-Very Interested in using recreational trails for walking or running.
- **Recreational Trails are also the top feature respondents were interested in when visiting parks** - Well over half (63 percent) were either Very or Very-Somewhat Interested in rec. trails.
- **There is support to expand the recreational trail system** - A majority (56 percent) were Very Interested or Somewhat-Very Interested in expanding multi-use recreational trails system
- **Respondents were interested in camping in a park cabin** – Of the selected options, 44 percent were either Very Interested or Very-Somewhat Interested in camping in a park cabin

Public Policy

- **Priority should be placed on increasing paved trails** - Adding paved trails in parks and recreational areas was a priority among respondents, with 45 percent indicating this initiative should be a High or Medium-High Priority
- **Concerning potential expansions, participants want more natural areas for recreational activities** - Data showed that 63 percent believed the county should place a High to Medium-High priority on this action.
- **Newspapers are the most common way people hear about GCCB education programs** – Forty-five (45) percent of responses said they obtain information on GCCB programs through print media

Demographics

- **The average household size of survey respondents has greater than the county at large** – The average household size of survey respondents was 2.90 persons compared to the county's 2010 Census estimated household size of 2.43 persons.
- **Household response distribution by jurisdiction was representative** – Responses were received from residents of all nine incorporated cities as well as unincorporated Grundy County.

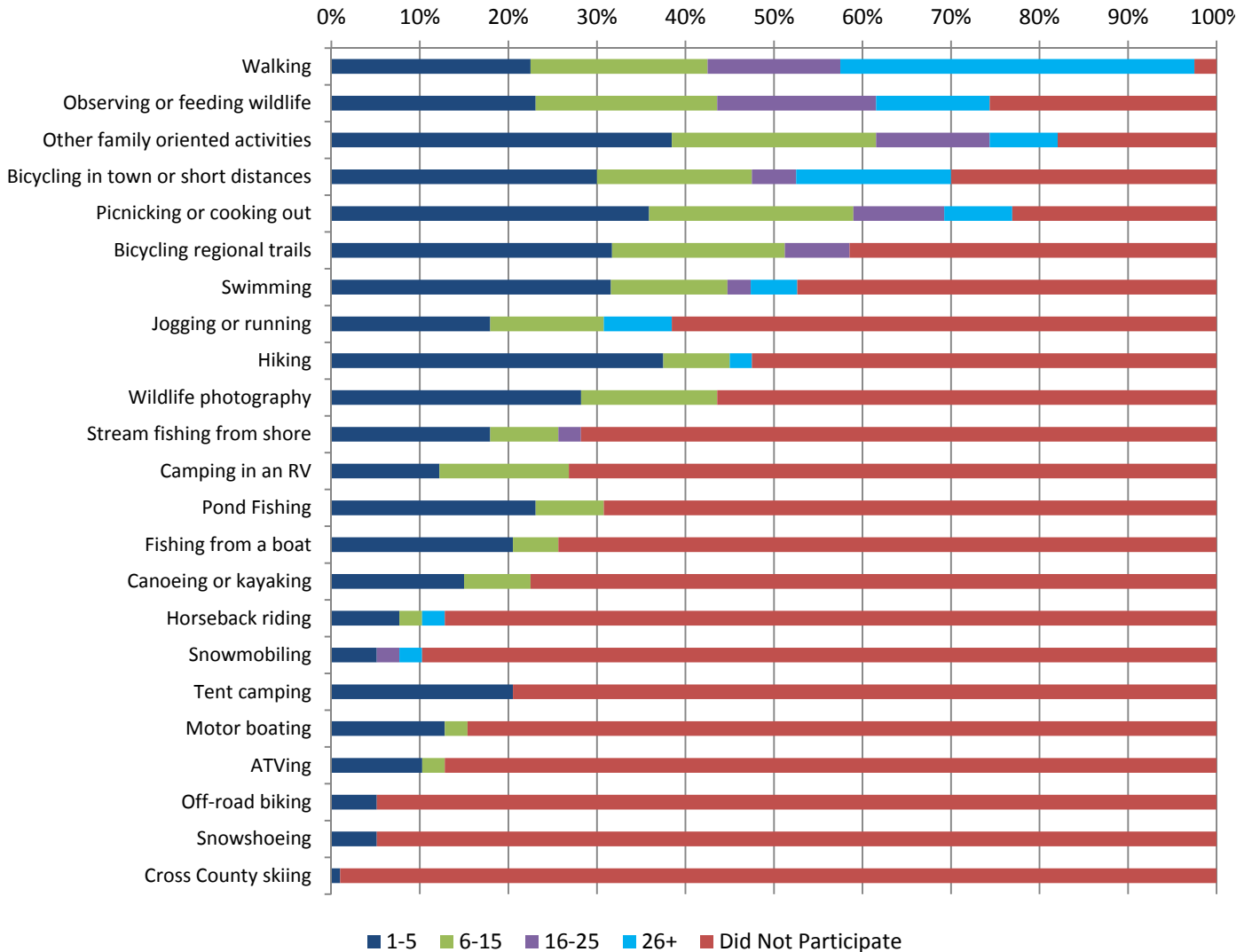
SECTION 1: RECREATION PARTICIPATION

In the first section, respondents were asked five questions regarding their household’s participation in various recreational related activities. The results, as well as an explanation of the data, follow each question.

Questions 1: *In the past twelve months, how often have you, or members of your household, engaged in the following outdoor activities in Grundy County? Please indicate how often you and your household participating in each activity by selecting the number range of that best represents the estimate number of times you participated in that activity.*

Figure 1 shows what activities, and the estimated number of times, each household participated in the past twelve months.

Figure 1: Household Recreational Participation in previous 12 months



Grundy County resident's outdoor activities are similar to those activities all lowans enjoy. The most common outdoor activity was walking (98 percent). The other top tier activities for participation included Other Family Oriented Activities – other than picnicking or cooking out (82 percent), Observing or feeding wildlife (74 percent), bicycling in town or short distances (70 percent) and picnicking or cooking out (77 percent).

The least popular activities were cross-country skiing (1 percent), snowshoeing (5 percent), and off-road biking (5 percent).

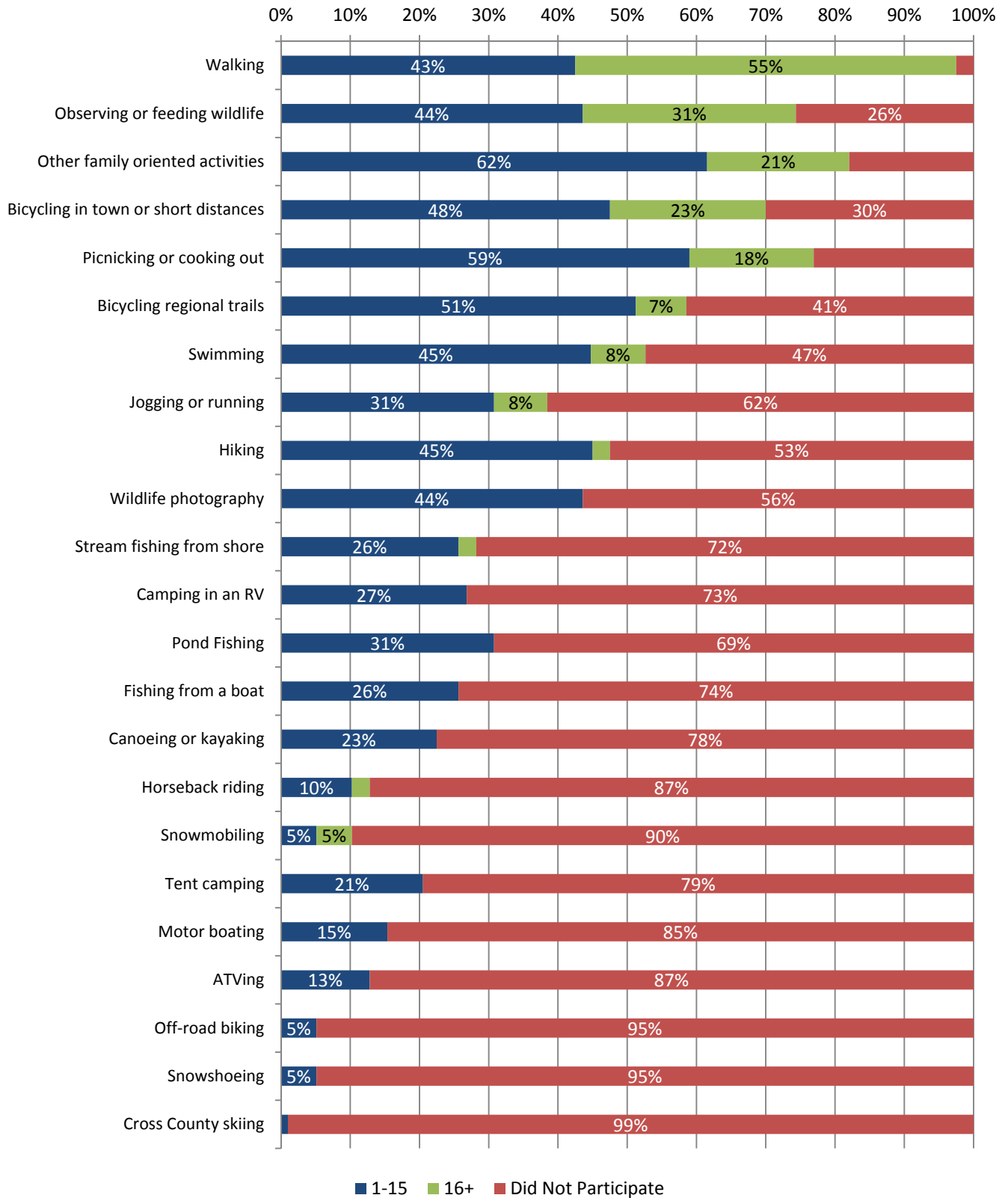
Winter seasoned recreation activity had a much lower rate of participation compared to warm/multi-season activities. Of responding households, ten (10) percent reported snowmobiling, five (5) percent snowshoeing, and one (1) percent cross-country skiing.

In terms of bicycling related activities, the most popular was bicycling in town or short distances with 70 percent indicating their household had participated. It also was a high intensity activity, as a nearly one-third (32 percent) of those who participated did so at least 16 times or greater in the previous year. A majority of households had taken advantage of regional trails, with 59 percent reporting to have participated. Off-road biking had the lowest participation frequency at 5 percent reporting.

Among camping activities, 27 percent had camped using an RV and 21 percent utilizing a tent. As detailed in the analysis of Question 3, (page 8) 42 percent of households participated in camping in the previous year. This data indicates that only a 5 percent crossover or households varying their camping between an RV and tent.

Figure 2 shows the same data as Figure 1; however, the frequency of participation has been combined to: Did not participate. Participated 1-15 times, participated 16 times or greater.

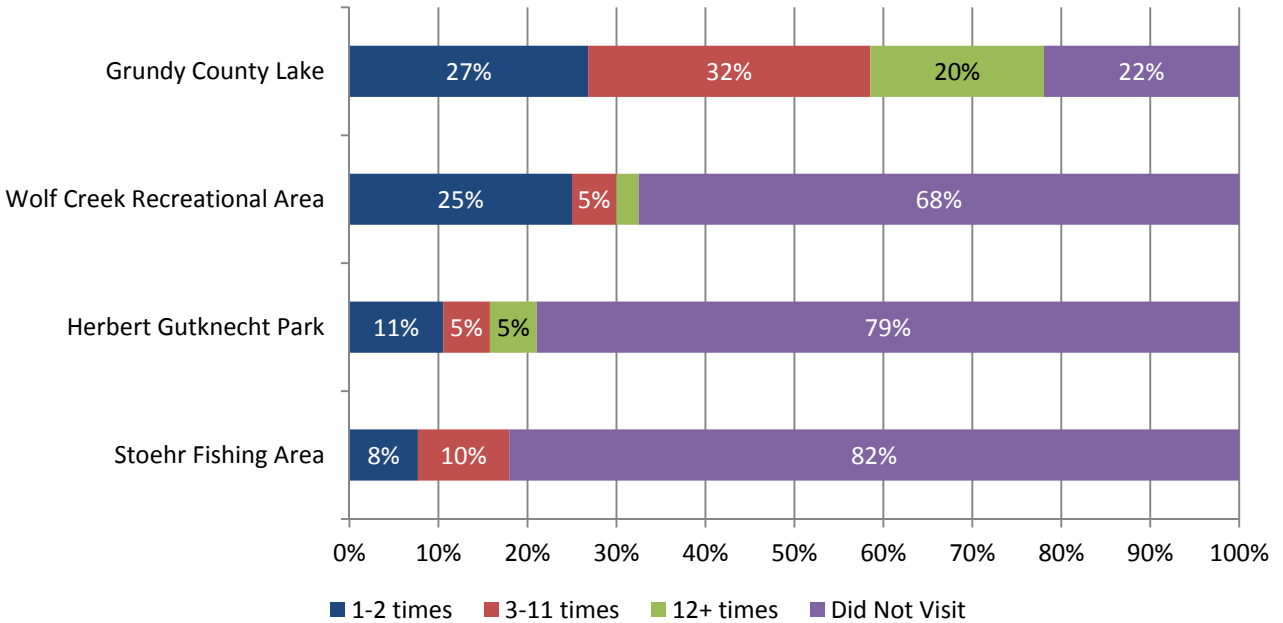
Figure 1.1: Household Recreational Participation in previous 12 months



Questions 2: *In the past 12 months, how many times have you or your household visited the following County parks? (location in parenthesis)*

As shown in Figure 2, Grundy County Lake was by far the most popular county park. Seventy-eight (78) percent respondents indicated they, or their household, had visited Grundy County Lake in the previous 12 months. In fact, a majority (51 percent) visited Grundy County Lake at least three times or more.

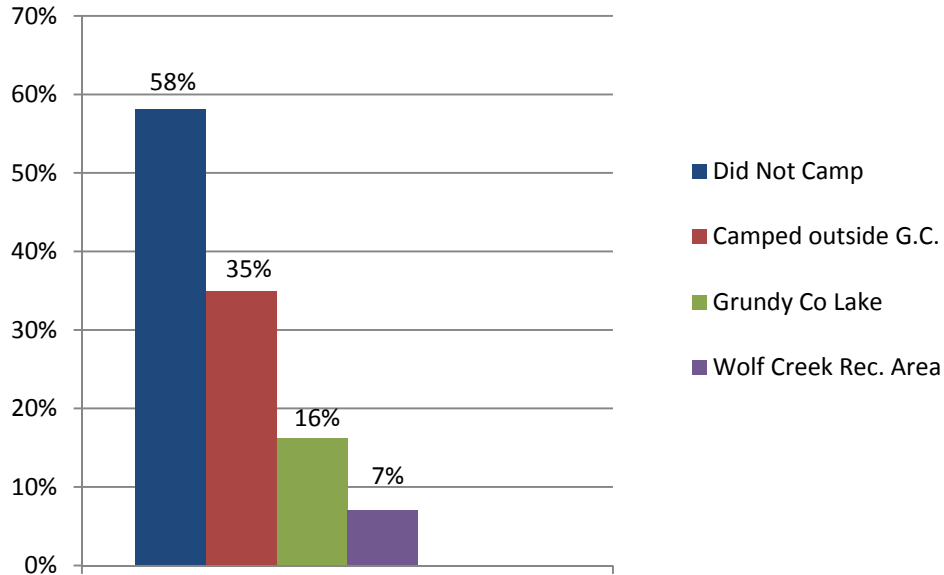
Figure 2: County Parks visited by Households in previous 12 months



Compared to the extremely popular Grundy County Lake, the other three county parks experienced fewer visitors. The next most popular park was Wolf Creek Recreational Areas, with 33 percent of respondents indicating they had visited the park in the past year. The other two county parks, Stoehr Fishing Area and Herbert Gutnecht Park, had been visited by 18 percent and 21 percent, respectively, of responding households.

Question 3: *In the past twelve months, has your household gone camping at any of the following locations in Grundy County?*

Figure 3: Households that have Camped in previous 12 months



A majority of the households did not camp in the previous year. According to results, 42 percent of responding households had camped in the previous 12 months. As discussed in the analysis of Question 1, (page 4) 27 and 21 percent of respondents, respectively, had reported camping using an RV or tent in the previous twelve months.

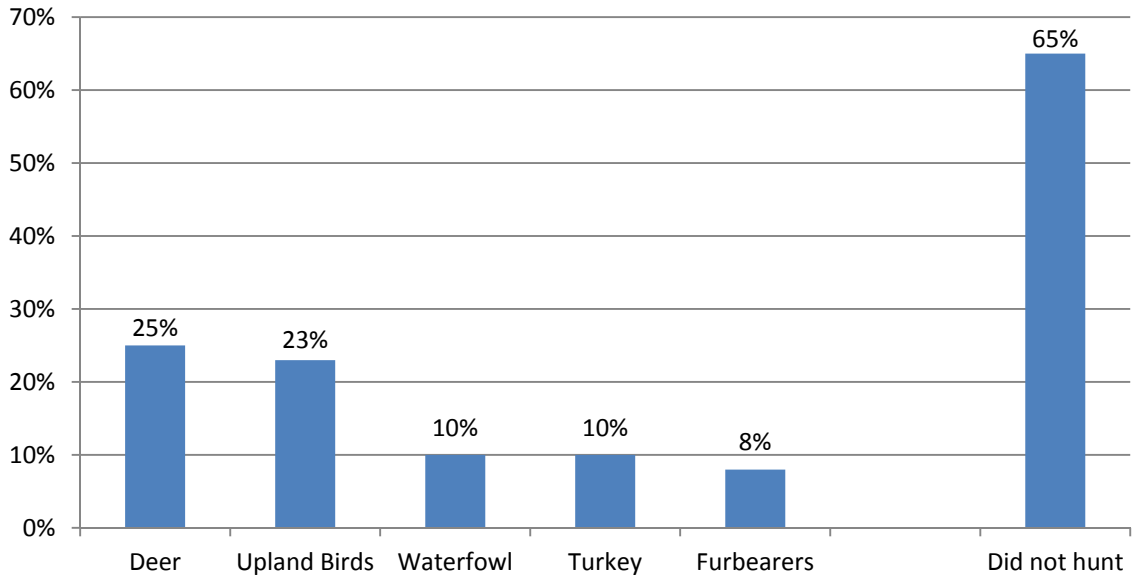
Of those households that stated that they did camp in response to question three, 75 percent indicated they camped outside of Grundy County. Thirty-five (35) percent of campers had camped at Grundy County Lake in the previous year. Fifteen (15) percent had camped at Wolf Creek Recreational Area. The survey did not differentiate if respondents had only camped in or out of Grundy County.

The popularity of camping among county residents aligns with findings at the state level. A statewide survey, conducted in 2012 as part of the Iowa State Outdoor Recreation in Iowa Plan (SCORP) found that 34 percent of respondents had camped in the previous two years².

² Iowa 2012 Survey for the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, www.iowadnr.gov

Question 4: *In the twelve months, which types of hunting did you or your household participate in?*

Figure 4: Hunting Participation in previous 12 months



Approximately one-third (35 percent) of households had hunted in the previous twelve months. The most popular game was deer following by upland birds.

The 2012 Iowa SCORP survey concluded that hunting in Iowa had a 21 percent participation rate. The higher rate among this survey’s responses may be attributed to a higher popularity of hunting in rural areas³.

Question 5: *Are there any other recreational activities you enjoy participating in Grundy County but were not included in the previous question lists?*

Five (5) respondents provided additional comments, shown below.

Figure 5: Recreational Activity Additional Comments
Playground equipment
Disc golf course in Reinbeck – would like to see more holes put up. Especially in or near Dike
Helping maintain and install pheasant/wildlife habitat
Golfing, +26 times
Golf

³ Iowa 2012 Survey for the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, www.iowadnr.gov

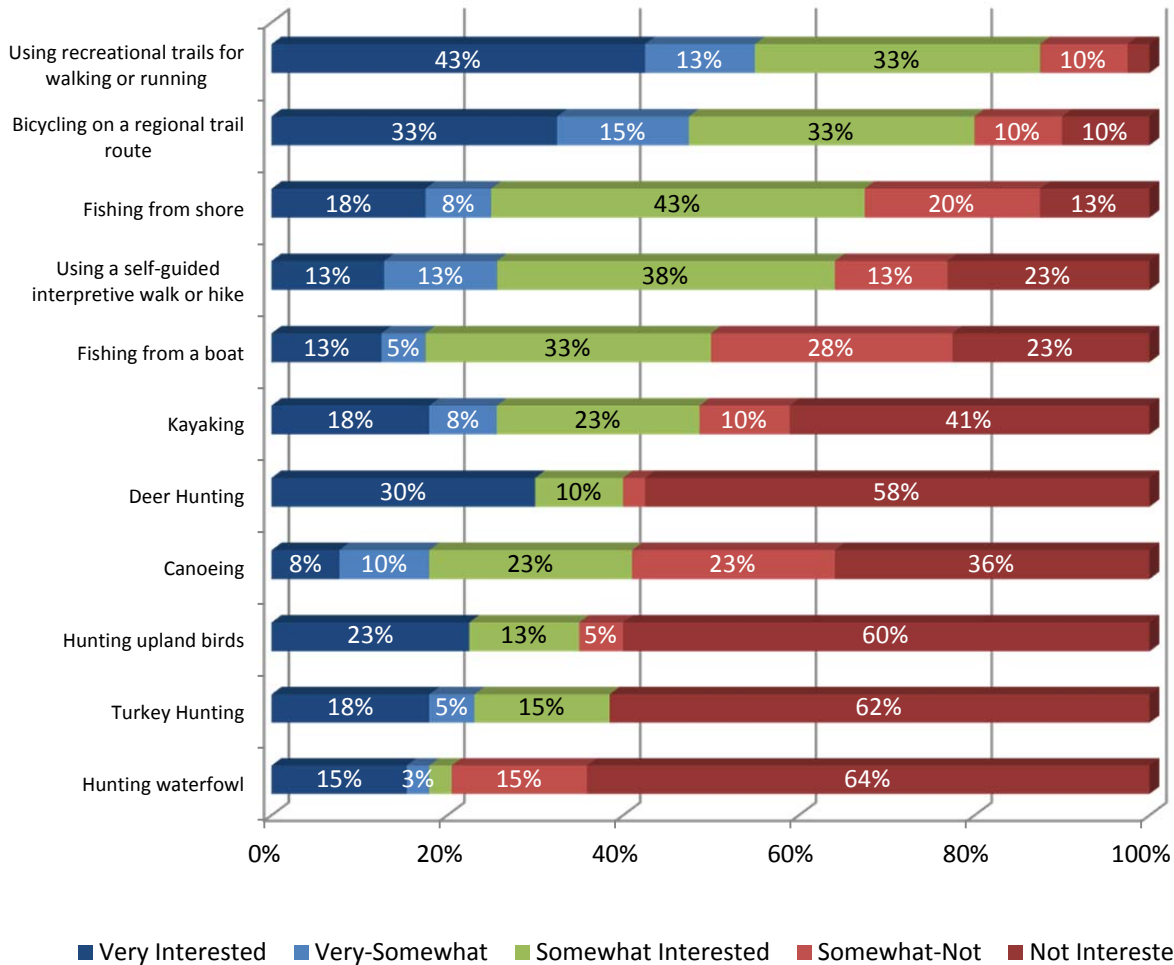
SECTION 2: INTERESTS

This section of the survey asked four questions about their interest in various conservation related subjects and initiatives.

Question 6: *In general, how interested are you and your household in participating in the following Recreational Activities?*

As displayed in Figure 6, 55 percent of households said that they were either Very Interested or Somewhat-Very Interested in using recreational trails for walking or running.

Figure 6: Interest in Recreational Activities

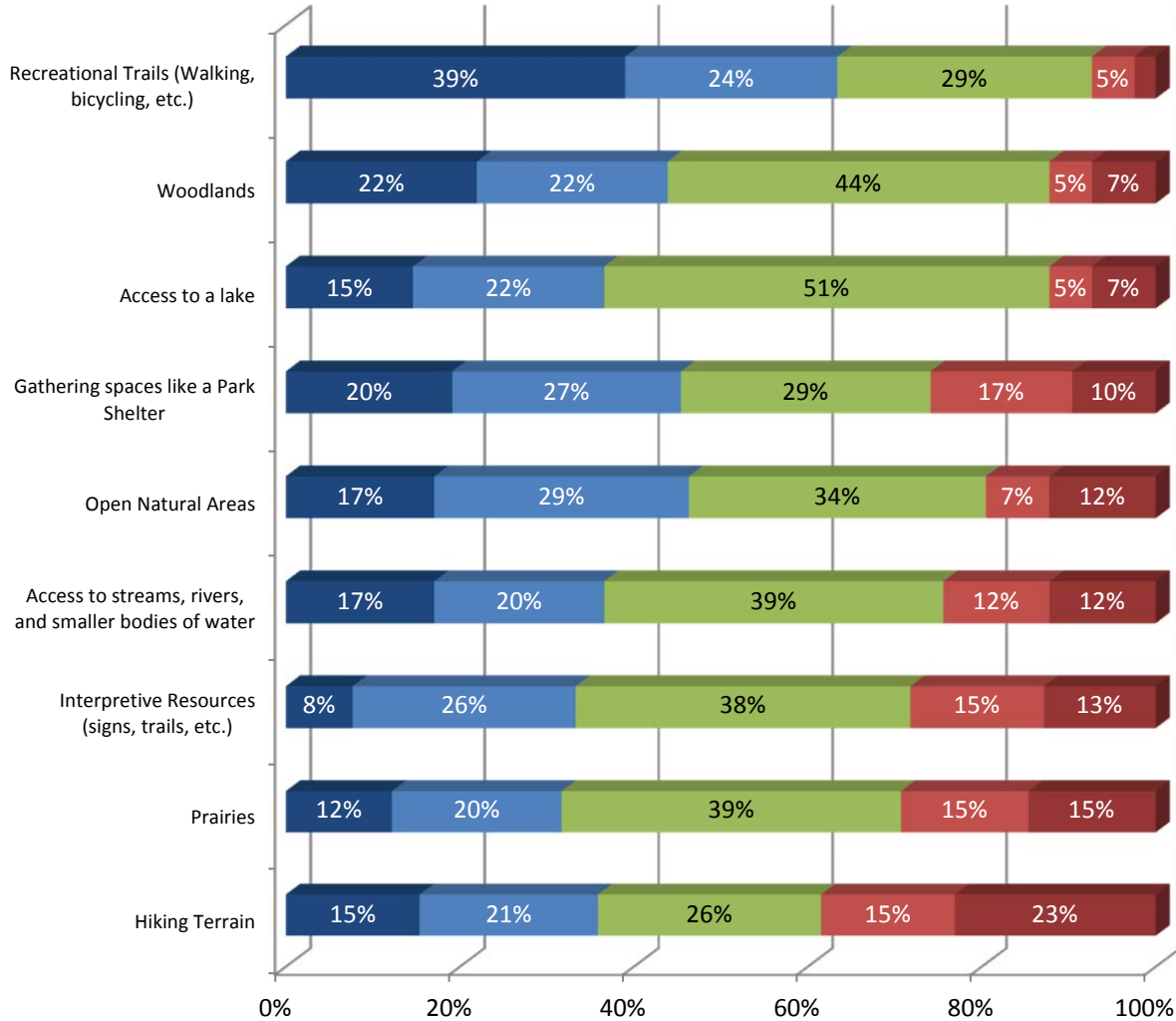


Hunting activities, including upland birds, turkey, and waterfowl, had the least amount of interest. Though given the nature of hunting – which requires upfront investment in equipment and licensing to participate – may be part of the reason households were less interested.

Question 7: When visiting parks for recreational activities, what features interest you most?

Figure 7 shows the level of interest expressed in various recreational features. The features with the highest level of interest were Recreational Trails. Well over half (63 percent) were either Very or Very-Somewhat Interested in rec. trails.

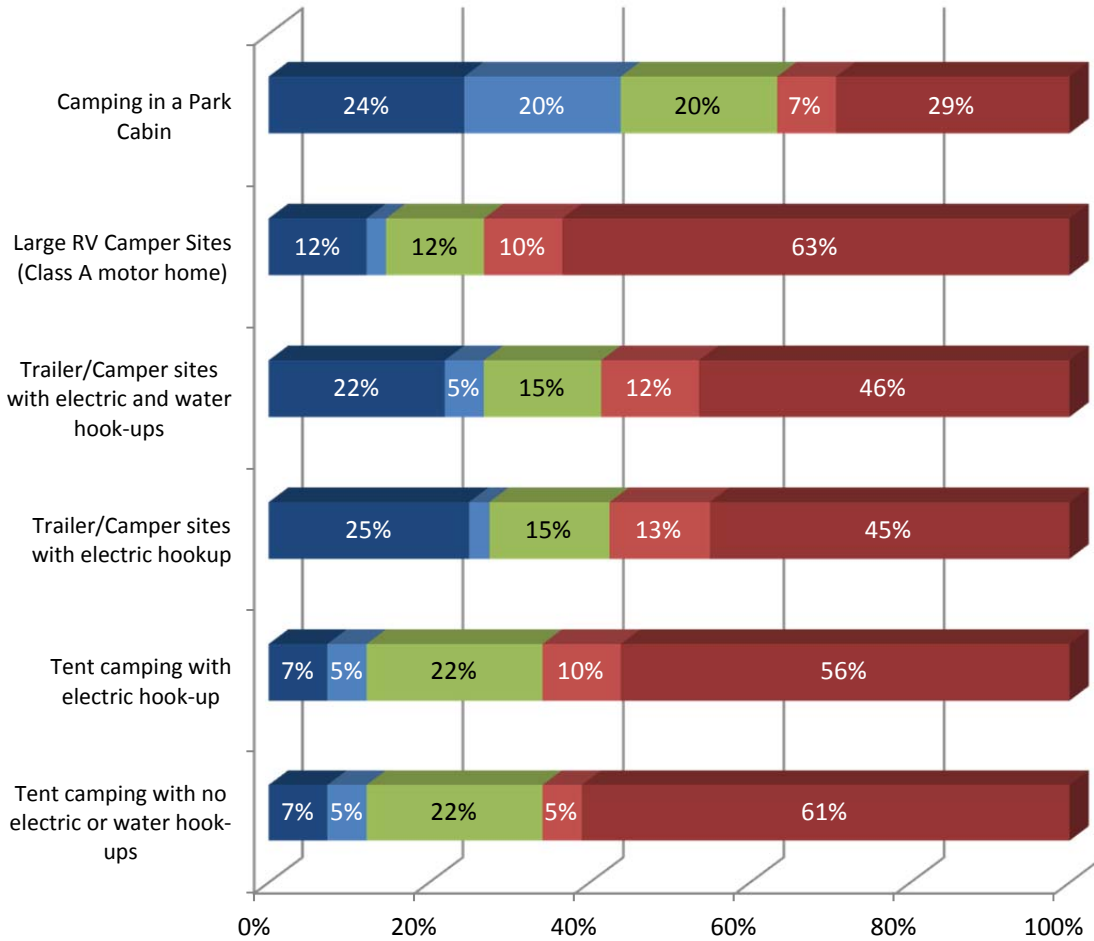
Figure 7: Interest in Recreational Features



■ Very Interested ■ Very-Somewhat ■ Somewhat Interested ■ Somewhat-Not ■ Not Interested

Question 8: How interested would your household in the following camping amenities/ opportunities in Grundy County?

Figure 8: Interest in Various Camping Amenities and Opportunities



■ Very Interested ■ Somewhat-Very ■ Somewhat Interested ■ Not-Somewhat ■ Not Interested

Camping in Park Cabin had the greatest level of interest of participants. Forty-four (44) percent were either Very Interested or Very-Somewhat Interested. In recent years, Park Cabins appear to be increasingly popular.

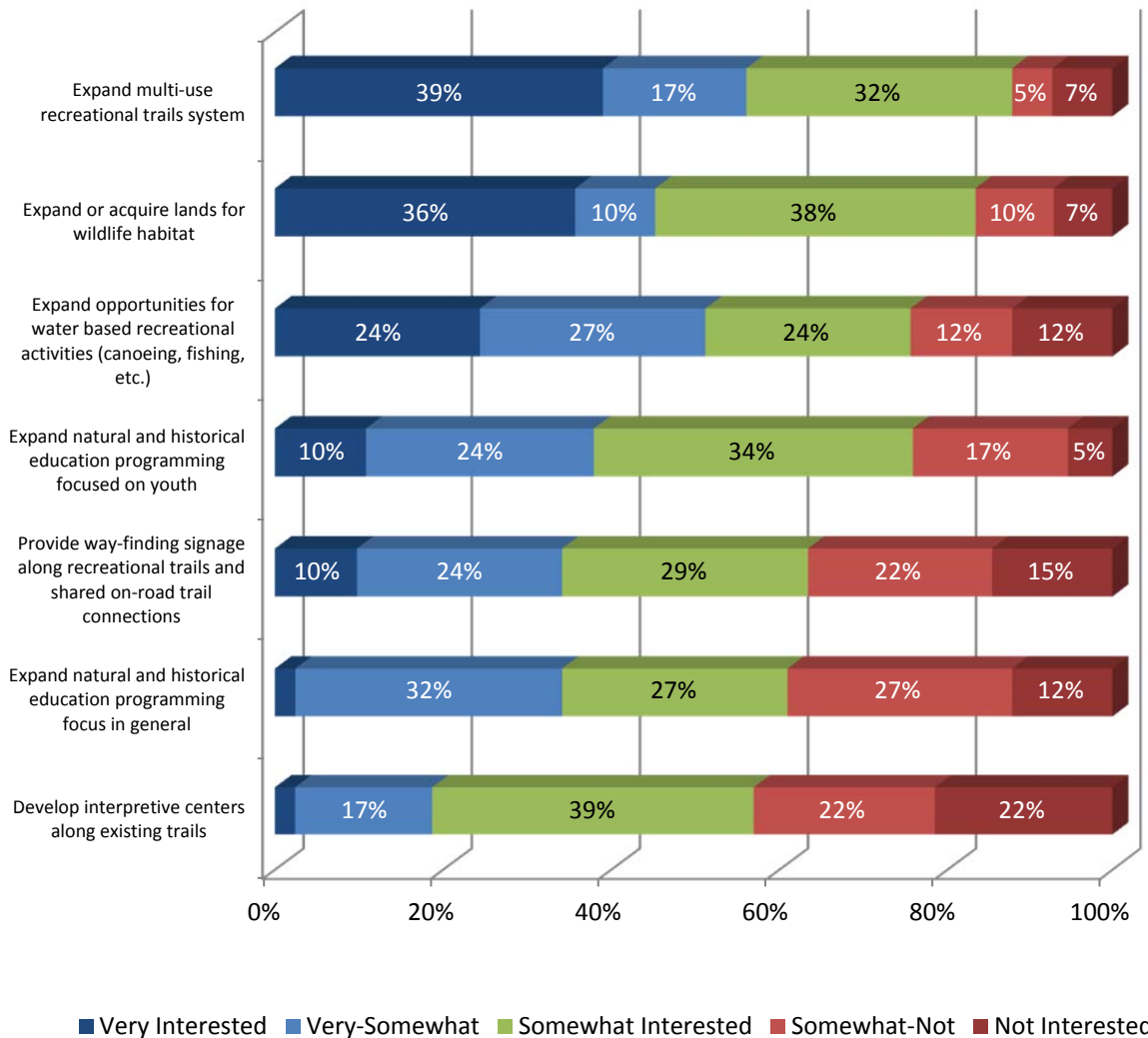
Results show there is not a tremendous amount of interest in more primitive style camping. Over sixty (60) percent stated that they were “Not Interested” in tent camping without electric or water hook-ups.

According to data from question eight, there does not appear to be high demand for camping infrastructure to facilitate large RV campers (Class A motor homes). However, this is understandable when considering that less than ten percent of the US households even own a camper⁴.

Interest in campsites for smaller, less complex RVs had greater interest. Twenty-eight (28) and 26 percent of households were either Very or Somewhat-Very Interested in Trailer/Camper sites with electric and electric and water-hookups were, respectively.

Question 9: Which of the following county initiatives would you support being pursued?

Figure 9: Support for Selected County Initiatives



⁴ National Statistics on RV Ownership, www.pvrca.org/NationalStatistics

There was overall general interest in the listed activities. All seven of the activities experienced over 50 percent of respondents indicating they were Very Interested, Very-Somewhat Interested, or Somewhat interested.

A majority of the respondents (56 percent) were Very Interested or Somewhat-Very Interested in expanding multi-use recreational trails system. The next most popular initiative was to “Expand or acquire lands for wildlife habitat” with 45 percent of population indicating they were Very Interested or Somewhat-Very Interested.

Respondents were least interested in developing interpretive centers along existing trails and expanding natural and historical educational programming in general. However, it should be noted that there was a greater interest in expanding natural and historical educational programs specifically targeted towards youth – with 34% indicating they were Very or Very-Somewhat Interested.

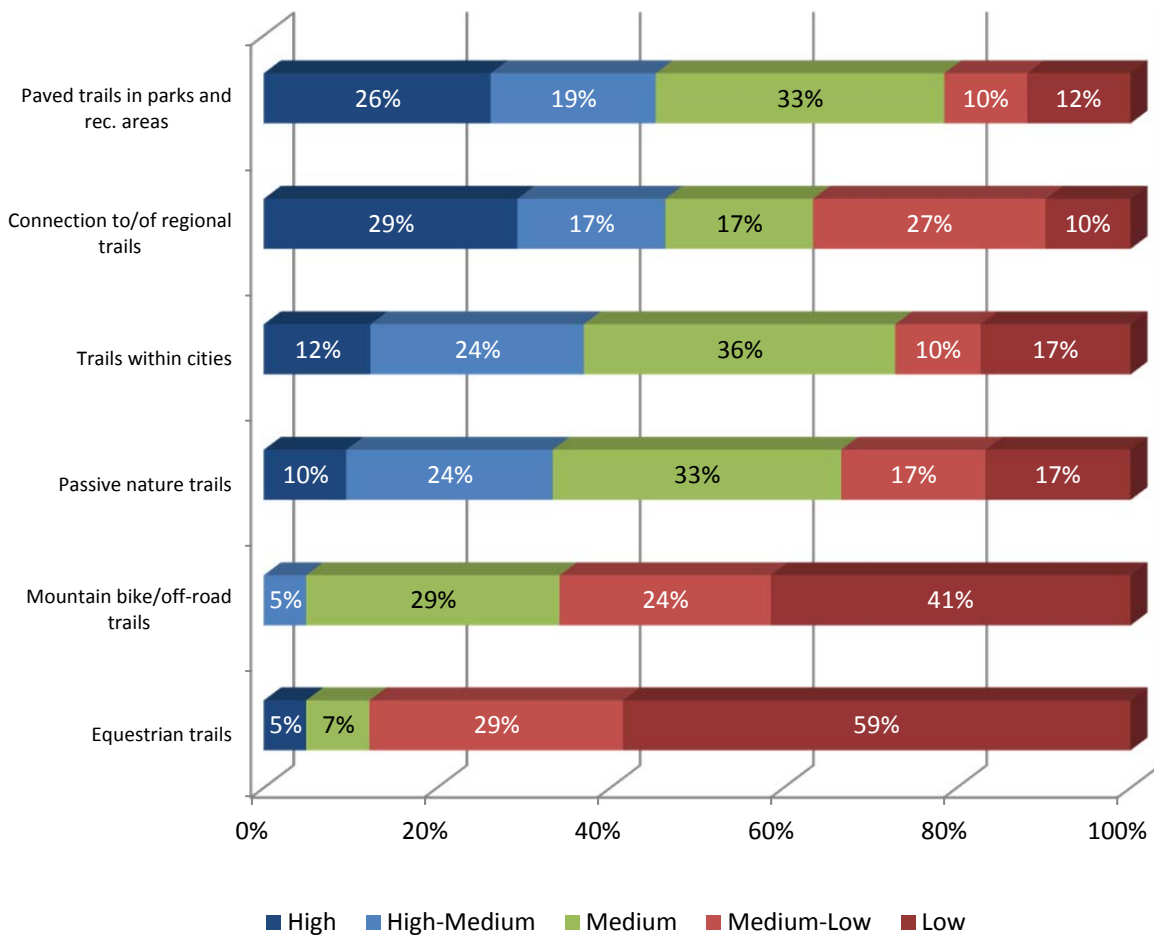
SECTION 3: POLICY PRIORITIES

This section of questions on priority the county should take on various measures.

Question 10: In the coming years, what level of priority should be placed on the following types of recreational trail amenities? Please select high, medium, or low for each answer.

Adding paved trails in parks and recreational areas was a priority among respondents, with 45 percent indicating this initiative should be a High or Medium-High Priority, as shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10: Priority of Future Trail Amenities



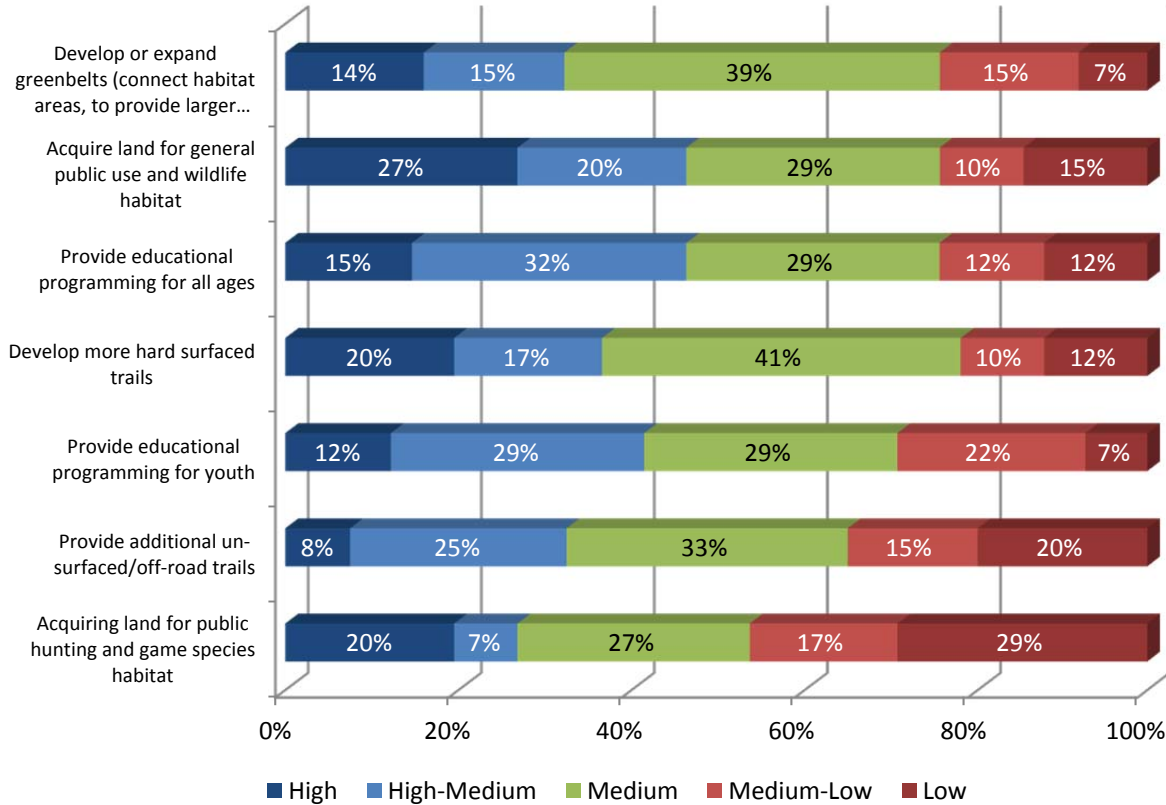
Furthermore, 46 percent stated that connection to/of regional trails should be a High or High-Medium Priority.

Mountain bike/off-road trails and Equestrian Trails were determined to have the lowest priority among the question’s answer options. For each, a majority indicated that the county should place a Low or Medium-Low priority on this type of infrastructure.

Question 11: Over the next five years, what level of priority should be placed on the following types of programs and projects?

As shown in Figure 11, acquiring land for general public use and wildlife habitat received the greatest number of “High” priority responses with 27 percent indicating so. Another 20 percent responded that these types of acquisitions should be a High-Medium Priority.

Figure 11: Priority for Future Programs and Projects

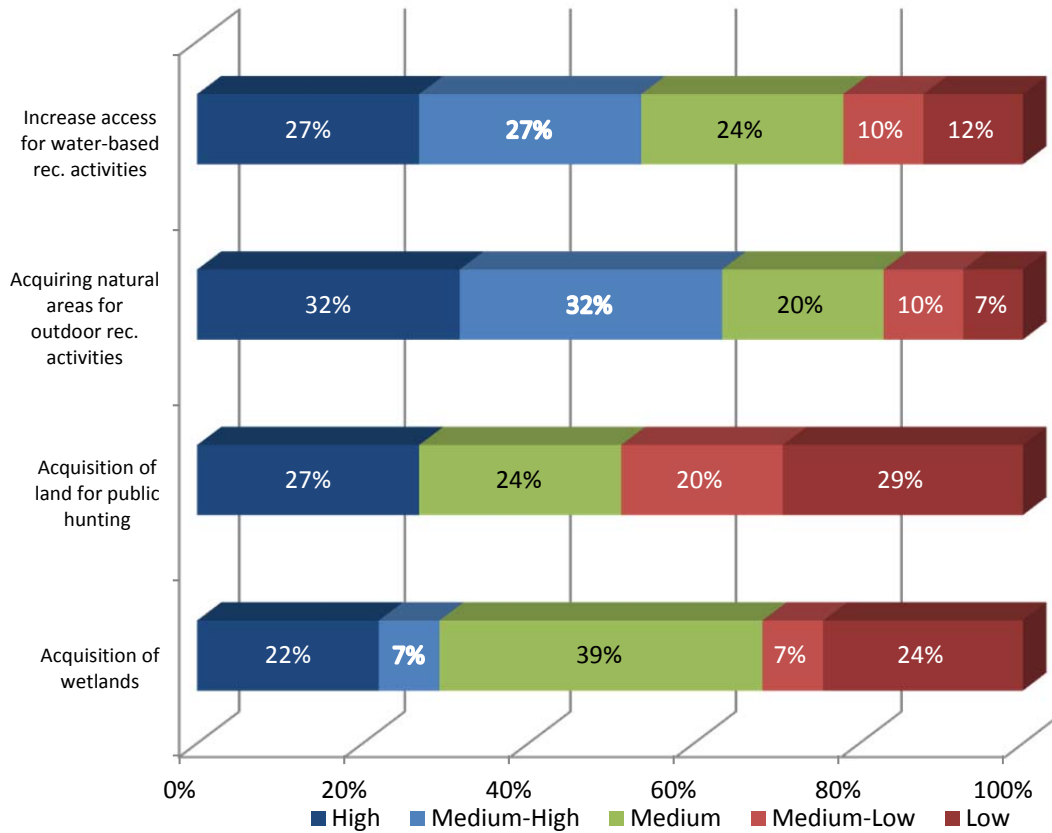


Participants also placed high value in developing greenbelts. While this option did not have as much “High” priority support as others, overall, it had the lowest percent of responses, 25 percent, which though this should be a Low or Medium-Low priority.

Acquiring land specific for public hunting had the lowest overall priority. However, as noted in other sections of the plan, the hunting is an activity enjoyed by less than half of households and requires upfront investments (firearm, ammunition, hunter’s education, licensing, wildlife habitat stamp, etc.) to be allowed to participate.

Question 12: What priority should the county place on expanding the following?

Figure 12: Priority of Future Expansions



Acquiring natural areas for outdoor recreational activities had the highest rate of support among respondents. Data showed that 63 percent believed the county should place a High to Medium-High priority on this action.

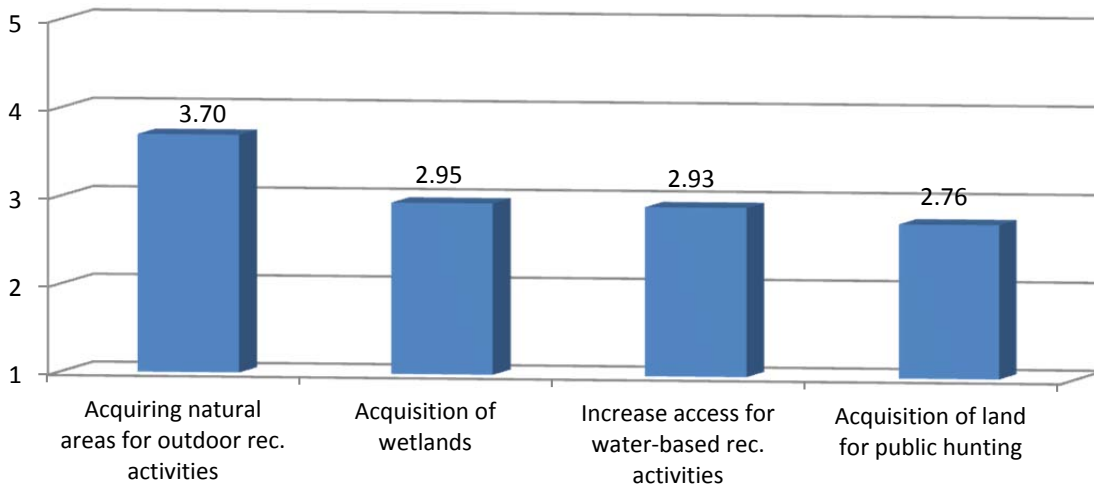
Acquiring land for public hunting had the least support among the options. Forty-nine (49) percent indicated that a Low or Medium-Low priority should be placed on this initiative.

As part of this analyses, answer options were weighted using the following points system: High = 5; High-Medium=4; Medium=3; Medium-Low=2; Low=1.

Figure 12.1 shows the results of these weighted averages. The value of three (3) is the mid-point of the High-Low range, indicating a Medium priority.

Acquiring natural areas for outdoor recreational activities was reported, by far, to be the initiative that respondents thought should have the highest priority placed upon it.

Figure 12.1: Priority of Future Expansions, Weighted



The other three options, scored below 3.0. Data indicates that respondents see that the top focus for land acquisitions should be placed on those for recreational activities.

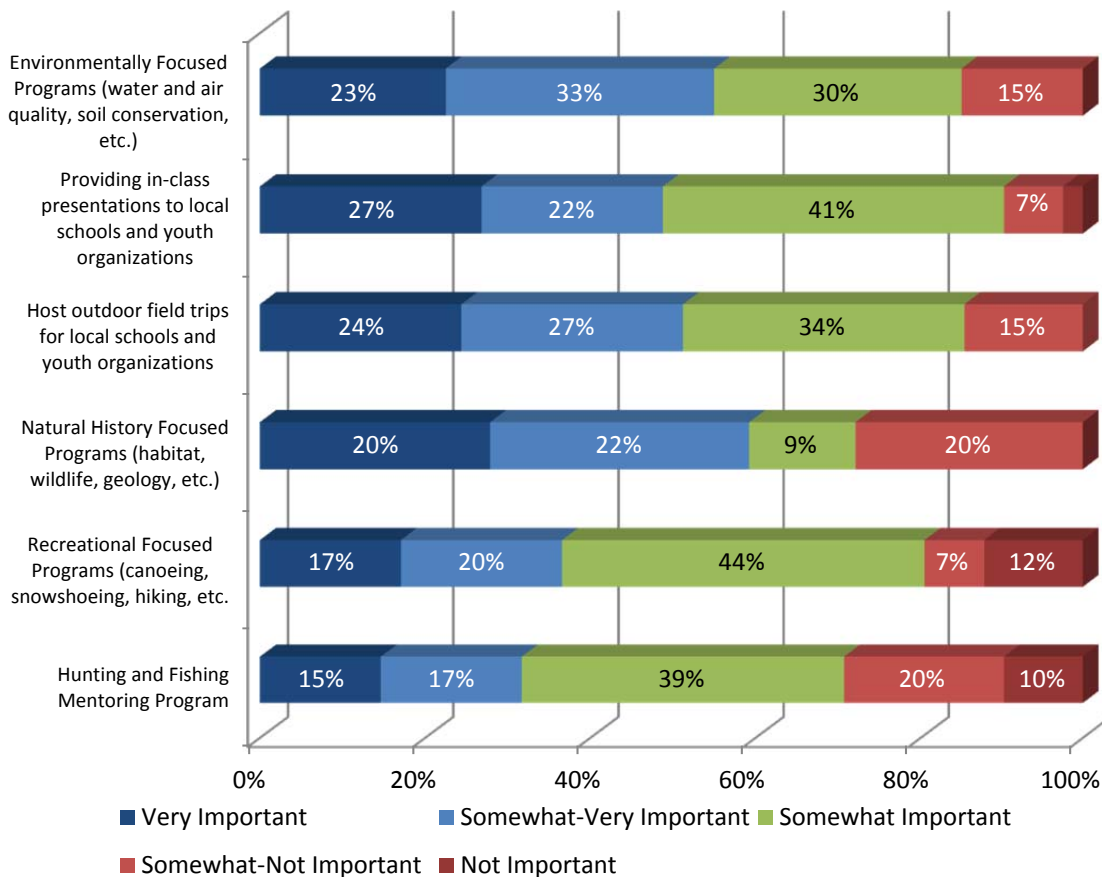
Acquisition of wetlands and increased access to water-based activities were both within one-tenth (0.1) of the “Medium” priority value.

Acquisition of land for public hunting had a lower level of priority than the other survey three options.

Question 13: Please indicate the level of importance the following types of educational programs are for Grundy County:

Figure 13 displays the results to this question. Environmentally Focused Programs (water and air quality, soil conservation, etc.) were deemed to have the highest importance among the five options. A majority, 56 percent, considered these types of educational programming to be Very Important or Somewhat-Very Important.

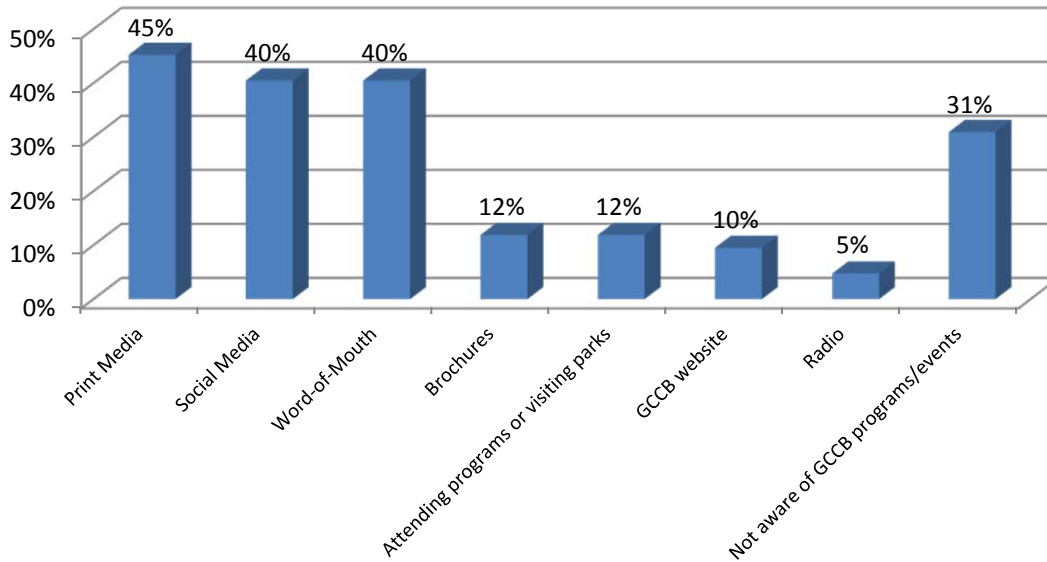
Figure 13: Importance of Selected Educational Programs



Bringing kids to the outdoors by hosting field trips for schools and other youth organizations was considered the next most important activity. Fifty-one (51) percent indicated these types of programming to be Very Important or Somewhat-Very Important. Moreover, no respondents indicated that these types of programs were Not Important and only 15 percent stated that they were only Somewhat-Not important.

Question 14: *The Grundy County Conservation Board hosts and sponsors interpretative education programs and events throughout the year concerning the county’s natural resources. How do you typically obtain information about Grundy County Conservation Board Educational programs?*

Figure 14: How Households Obtain Information on GCCB Programs



By far, the three most popular methods that county residents hear about GCCB programs and events in through print media (i.e. newspapers), social media, and word-of-mouth.

Thirty-one (31) percent of respondents said they were not aware of any GCCB programs or events. While an impressive 69 percent of respondents indicated they were aware of GCCB programs, there is still room for the Board to expand their outreach to connect with persons unfamiliar with their programs.

SECTION 4: DEMOGRAPHICS

The final section of the questionnaire requested respondents to provide selected demographic information.

Question 15: *Including yourself, how many persons within the following age groups live in your household?*

Figure 15: Average Household Size				
Age Group	Survey Respondents		2010 US Census	
	Avg. # of	% of	Avg. # of	% of
Children, 17 years of age or younger	1.02	35.2%	0.58	23.8%
Adults, 18 years of age or older	1.88	64.8%	1.85	76.2%
Average Household size	2.90	100%	2.43	100%

The average household size of respondents was nearly 0.5 persons higher than the average household size as determined at the time of the 2010 US Census. This data indicates that higher percent of the respondents were households with children than the county population in general. At the time of the 2010 US Census, the average household size in Grundy County was 2.87size of respondents

As discussed in the opening section, survey notices directed participants to take the survey online via a website or by scanning a QR Code (Quick Response Code). Survey notifications also included instructions to request a paper version of the survey. No paper versions were requested.

The higher response rate from families can likely be attributed to the fact that older persons do not use the internet as much as younger users. The Connect Iowa Report found that elderly persons, those age 65 and older, use broadband internet at half the rate as persons under the age of 65⁵.

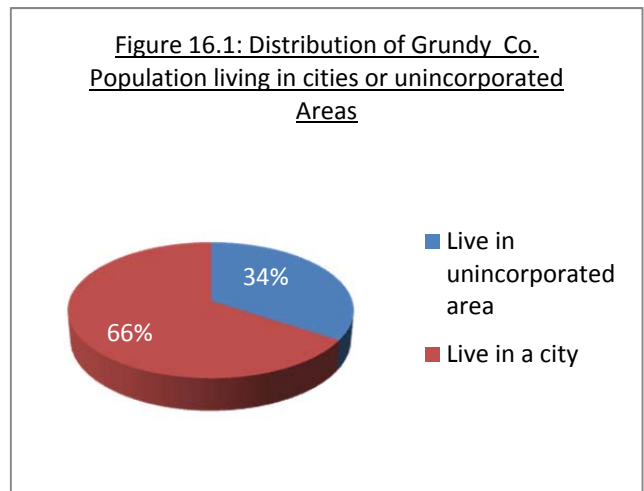
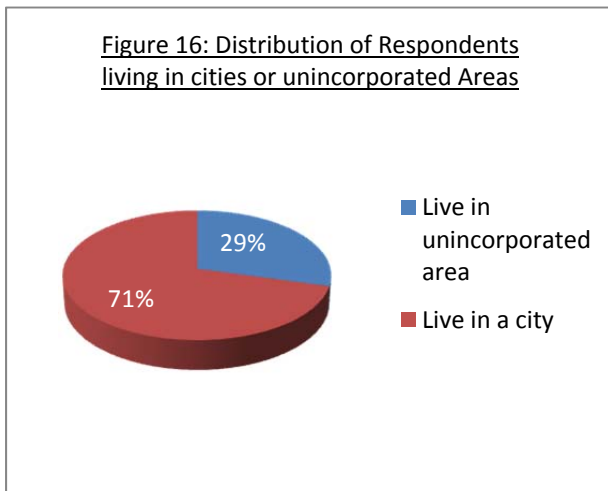
⁵ Connect Iowa Final Grant Report, www.connectiowa.org

Question 16: Which city do you live in or closest to?

Question 17: Do live within city limits?

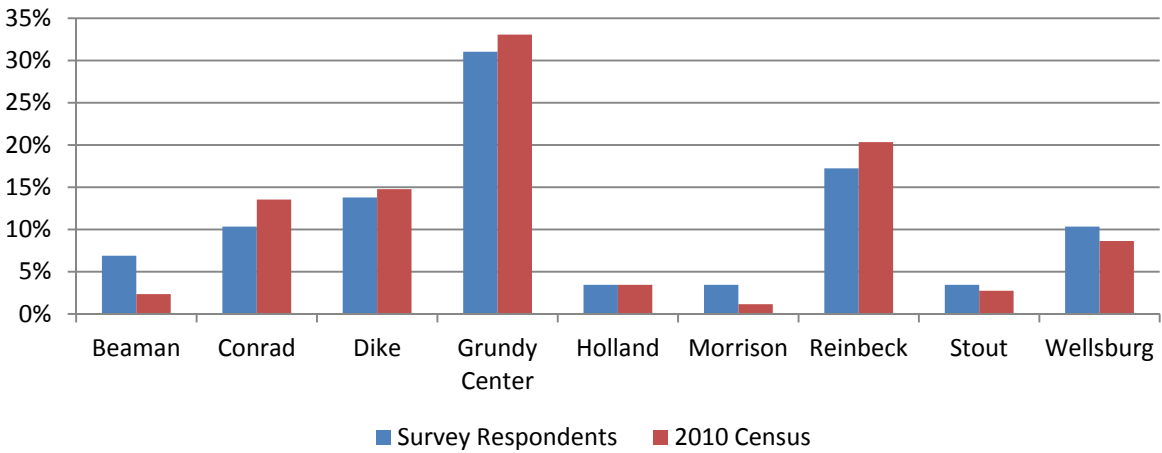
The survey was slightly (5 percent) overrepresented by persons who live in cities as opposed to the unincorporated area of the county. Figures 16 and 16.1 compare the percent of respondents and general population, as of the 2010 US Census, which live in an incorporated city or in the unincorporated area of the county.

As shown, 71 percent of survey respondents lived within a city. According to data from the 2010 Census, 66 percent of the population s lived within a city.



Twenty-nine (29) percent of responding households lived within a city. Figure 17 (next page) shows what percent each city made up of the total city responses (shown in red). The figure also shows the population distribution amongst the cities of all of the county’s city dwellers.

Figure 17: Jurisdictional Distribution of Respondents Living in a City



While there was some natural variation with some communities were slightly over or under represented, in all, the survey is relatively representative of the geographical distribution of residents among the county’s cities.

Question 18: Do you have any final comments or ideas you wish to share with the REAP committee?

The final survey question included an open field text box and asked participants to submit any additional ideas or comments they wished to share with the REAP committee. Four persons responded. Their comments are shown in Figure 18.

Figure 18: Additional Comments for REAP Committee
Love the Comet Trail
I grew up in Bremer County, with the Wapsi nearby there is a lot of public land access most of which is woodland and the remainder is focused on waterfowl habitat. I'd love to see the pheasant numbers come back so anything you can do to provide additional habitat I'm on board. I'm willing to help volunteer some time and labor as well. Let me know if I can help. Thanks Trey Nuss 563-370-1545
There are wildlife habitats to preserve and wildlife pests that need more controls on the golf courses within the County. Expertise for it appreciated.
Thank you for seeking public opinion. I think Grundy Co has many fantastic outdoor resources and my family and I are pleased to be able to enjoy them

Appendix 1: Survey Instrument

Grundy County REAP Survey

Welcome!

Greetings and thank you for taking the time to participate in our survey!

This survey is being conducted on behalf of the Grundy County Resource Enhancement And Protection (REAP) Committee. REAP is a State of Iowa program that invests in the enhancement and protection of natural and cultural resources.

Each county has a REAP committee which, among its various duties, is charged with developing a county plan identifying the types of projects and programs they want to see accomplished with future REAP funds.

The Grundy County REAP committee is in the process of updating their five-year plan. As part of this effort, this survey has been created to gather input from county residents regarding various conservation, recreation, environmental, and cultural assets within Grundy County.

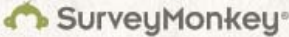
In its 26 years of existence, Iowa's REAP program has benefited every county in the state and supporting over 14,500 projects with more than \$264 million in investments. Grundy County has received over \$900,000 in REAP funds during this time period.

Your input will help the committee as they develop their new five year county plan and prioritize the use of future REAP funds.

The survey should take approximately 5-10 minutes.
Thank you!

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Grundy County REAP Survey

Recreational Participation

The first section of the survey inquires as to the types of recreational activities you, and your household, have participated in over the past 12 months.

1. In the past twelve months, how often have you, or members of your household, engaged in the following outdoor activities in Grundy County?

Please indicate how often you and your household participating in each activity by selecting the number range of that best represents the estimate number of times you participated in that activity.

	Did not participate	1-5	6-15	16-25	26+
Picnicking or cooking out	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other family oriented activities (other than picnicking or cooking out)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Observing or feeding wildlife	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife photography	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hiking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jogging or running	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cross County skiing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowshoeing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Horseback riding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bicycling in town or short distances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bicycling regional trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-road biking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowmobiling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ATVing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Canoeing or kayaking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stream fishing from shore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from a boat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pond Fishing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Motorboating	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tent Camping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Camping in an RV	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. In the past 12 months, how many times have you or your household visited the following County parks? (location in parenthesis)

	Did Not Visit	1-2 times	3-6 times	7-11 times	12+ times
Grundy County Lake (southwest of Dike)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Herbert Gutlinacht Park (west of Reinbeck)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stoehr Fishing Area (west of Holand)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wolf Creek Recreation Area (southeast of Beaman)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. In the past twelve months, has your household gone camping at any of the following locations in Grundy County?

- Did not camp
- Camped outside Grundy County
- Wolf Creek Recreation Area (southeast of Beaman)
- Grundy County Lake (southwest of Dike)
- Herbert Gutlinacht Roadside Park (west of Reinbeck)
- Stoehr Fishing Area (southeast of Wellsburg)

4. In the twelve months, which types of hunting did you or your household participate in?

- Did not hunt
- Upland Birds (e.g. pheasant)
- Waterfowl (e.g. geese)
- Deer
- Turkey
- Furbearers
- Other (please specify)

5. Are there any other recreational activities you enjoy participating in Grundy County but were not included in the previous question lists?

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Grundy County REAP Survey

Interest

This section of the survey seeks input as to the types of activities and programs you and your household are interested in participating in.

1. In general, how interested are you and your household in participating in the following recreational activities?

	Not Interested		Somewhat Interested		Very Interested
Bicycling on a regional trail route	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using recreational trails for walking or running	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using a self-guided interpretive walk or hike	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from shore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from a boat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Canoeing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kayaking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting upland birds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting waterfowl	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Deer Hunting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Turkey Hunting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. When visiting parks for recreational activities, what features interest you most?

	Not Interested		Somewhat Interested		Very Interested
Gathering spaces like a Park Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Woodlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hiking Terrain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational Trails (walking, bicycling, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open Natural Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prairies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interpretive Resources (signs, trails, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to streams, rivers, and smaller bodies of water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to a lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. How interested would your household in the following camping amenities/opportunities in Grundy County?

	Not Interested		Somewhat Interested		Very Interested
Tent Camping with no electric or water hook-ups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tent Camping with electric hook-up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trailer/Camper Sites with electric hookup	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trailer/Camper Sites with electric and water hook-ups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Large RV Camper Sites (Class A motor home)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Camping in a Park Cabin	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Which of the following initiatives would you support being pursued?

	Not Interested		Somewhat Interested		Very Interested
Expand opportunities for water based recreational activities (canoeing, fishing, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide way-finding signage along recreational trails and shared on-road trail connections	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop interpretive centers along existing trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand Natural and historical education programming focused in general	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand or acquire lands for wildlife habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand Natural and historical education programming focused on youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand multi-use recreational trails system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Grundy County REAP Survey

Policy Priorities

This section of the survey asks your opinion in regards to the types of policies you would like to see pursued at the county level.

1. In the coming years, what level of priority should be placed on the following types of recreational trail amenities. Please select high, medium, or low for each answer

	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority
Paved trails in parks and recreational areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Passive nature trails (not paved)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trails within cities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equestrian Trails (Horse)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mountain bike/off-road trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Connection to/of regional trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Over the next five years, what level of priority should be placed on the following types of programs and projects?

	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority
Acquiring land for public hunting and game species habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquire land for general public use and wildlife habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop more hard surfaced trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide additional un-surfaced/off-road trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide educational programming for youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide educational programming for all ages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop or expand greenbelts (connect habitat areas, to provide larger wildlife areas)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. What priority should the county place on expanding the following:

	Low Priority		Medium Priority		High Priority
Acquisition of wetlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquisition of land for public hunting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquiring natural areas for outdoor recreational activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase access for water-based recreational activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, boating, fishing, and wildlife viewing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Please indicate the level of importance the following types of educational programs are for Grundy County?

	Not Important		Somewhat Important		Very Important
Providing in-class presentations to local schools and youth organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Host outdoor field trips for local schools and youth organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural History Focused Programs (habitat, wildlife, geology, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmentally Focused Programs (water and air quality, soil conservation, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational Focused Programs (canoeing, snowshoeing, hiking, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting and Fishing Mentoring Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. The Grundy County Conservation Board hosts and sponsors interpretive education programs and events throughout year in regard to the county's natural resources. How do you typically obtain information about Grundy County Conservation Board Educational programs?

- Print Media (e.g. local newspaper)
- Social Media (e.g. Facebook)
- Conservation Board website (www.mycountyparks.com)
- Radio
- Brochures
- By attending programs or visiting parks
- Word-of-mouth
- I am not aware of CCCB programs or events

Other (please specify)

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Grundy County REAP Survey

Demographic Data

**1. Including yourself, how many persons within the following age groups live in your household?
(enter Arabic Numerals - e.g. "2")**

Children, 17 years of age or younger

Adults, 18 years of age or older

2. Which city do you live in or closest to?

- Beaman
- Conrad
- Dike
- Grundy Center
- Holland
- Morrison
- Reinbeck
- Stout
- Wellsburg
- I do not live in Grundy County

3. Do you live within city limits?

- Yes
- No

4. Do you have any final comments or ideas you wish to share with the REAP committee?

Thank you for taking our survey!

If you have any questions or comments regarding this survey or the REAP plan, contact: Jacob Tjaden, INRCOG, at jtjaden@inrcog.org or (319)235-0311

Appendix 2: Survey Notification Materials

Survey Flyer posted at County Courthouse, city halls, and public libraries (printed on 8.5"x11")

Grundy County REAP Survey

We Want To Hear From You!

This brief survey seeks your feedback regarding the future of the county's conservation, environmental, educational, cultural and recreational resources.

The survey is being conducted on behalf of the Grundy County Resource Enhancement And Protection (REAP) Committee who's mission is to preserve and enhance our county's natural resources while improvement the quality of life of Grundy County Residents.

Survey Topics Include

City & County Parks, Trails, Recreational Activities, Educational Programs, Hunting & Fishing, Wildlife Habitat, and More!

Please take the survey online at:

WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/S/GRUNDYCOUNTY



The survey will be open through September 30th

For questions, comments, or to receive a paper version of the survey, contact:
Jacob Tjaden / INRCOG
(319) 235-0311 / jtjaden@inrcog.org



Survey notification postcard mailed to county residents (printed on 5"x3.5" postcards)

The Grundy County Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Committee invites you to...

Take the Grundy County Resource Enhancement Survey!

www.SurveyMonkey.com/s/GrundyCounty

Survey topics include:

- Recreational trails
- County and City parks
- Education programs
- Quality of life
- Historic sites
- Conservation practices
- Camping
- Hunting and fishing
- and more!



If you have any questions, or would like a paper copy of the survey, contact Jacob Tjaden at (319) 235-0311 or jtjaden@inrcog.org

