

Annual Use Estimate of the Regional Parks System for 2014

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Use Estimate Background

- Produced annually since 1995
- Used in formula to calculate regional park implementing agency share of:
 - Capital Improvement Program dollars
 - Parks and Trails Legacy Fund dollars
 - Operations and Maintenance dollars
- Monitor use trends over time

Summer Regional Parks System Counts

- Regional park implementing agency role
 - Resources:
 - Financial
 - Staff
- Counts--backbone to produce the annual use estimate

2014 Counts, continued

Regional Park System Counts included:

- Units only open to the public
 - 40 Regional Parks
 - 12 Park Reserves
 - 40 Regional Trails
 - 7 Special Recreation Features
 - **99 total units**
- Regional Park System use Memorial Day-Labor Day
- Randomized selection of day/time/entrance
- 2-hour time blocks

Use Estimate Methodology

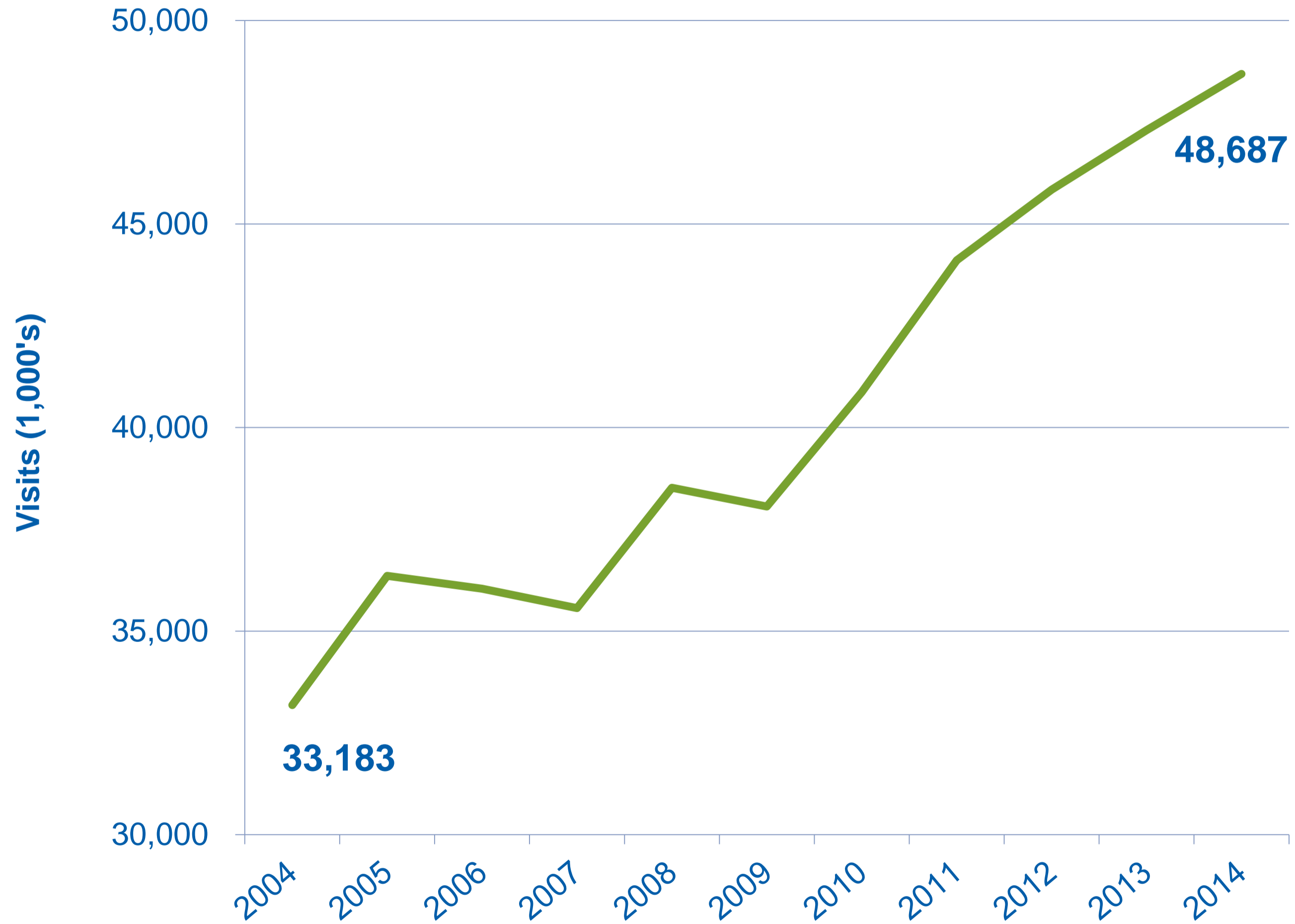
- 4-years of data
 - 2011-2014
- Seasonal multiplier
- “Expansion factor” multiplier
 - Accounts for all possible dates/times/entrances
- Special events and camping

Results: Use Estimate

2014

48,687,143 visits

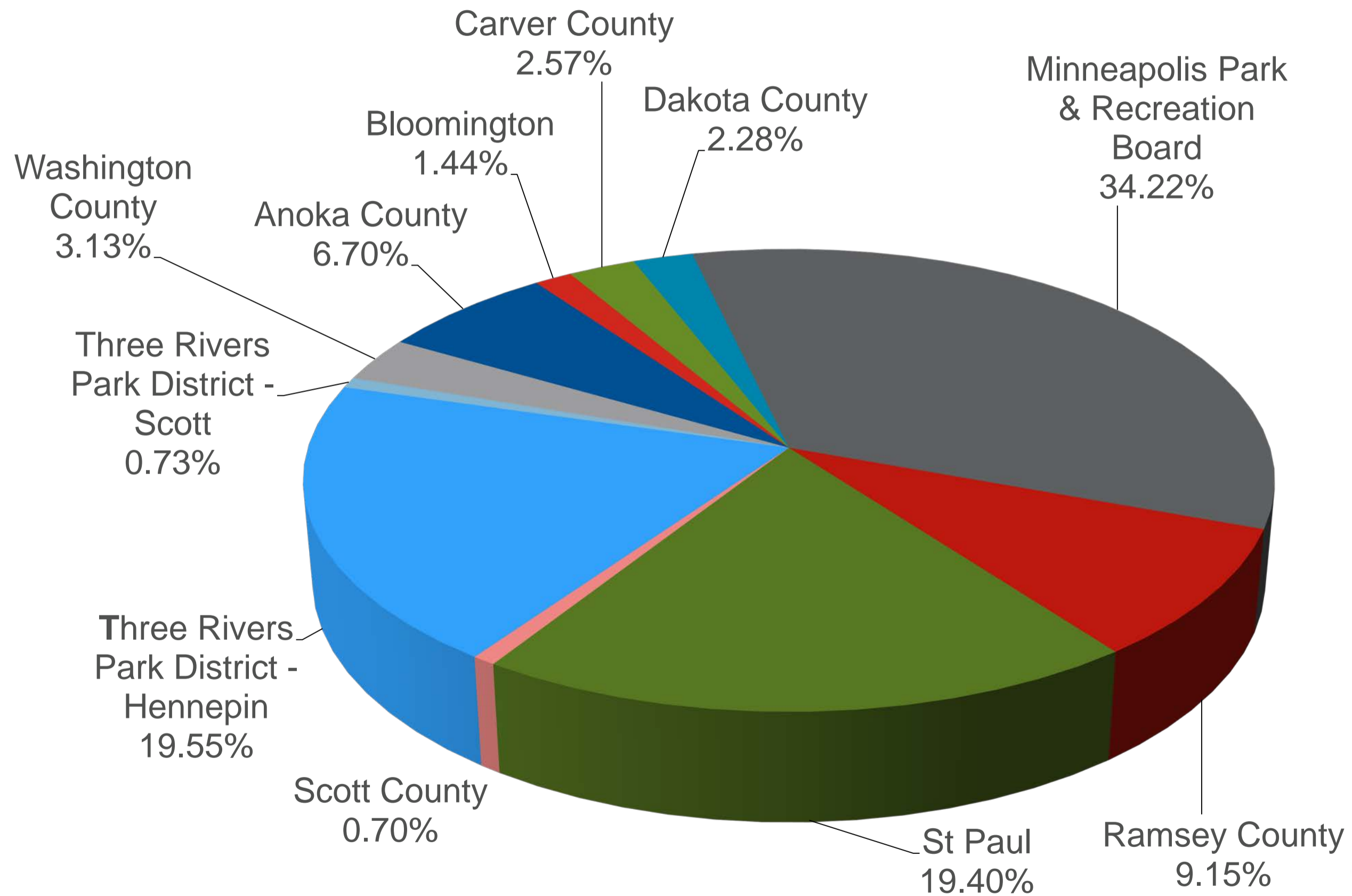
Total Annual Visits: 2004-2014



Most Frequently Visited Parks in Regional Parks System

<i>Park/Reserve/Trail</i>	<i>2014 Visits</i>
Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park	5,476,400
Como Regional Park, Zoo and Conservatory Special Recreation Feature	4,311,000
Mississippi Gorge Regional Park	2,692,700
Central Mississippi Riverfront Regional Park	2,275,800
Minnehaha Regional Park	1,686,600

2014 Visitation by Agency



Additional Information

- Report posted online
- No information collected directly from visitors
 - Thrive directives to strengthen equitable use of regional parks and trails
 - 2016 effort

