Blue Mound State Park Master Plan
Management Alternatives Public Meeting
November 19, 2019
Tonight’s Meeting

• Welcome
• BMSP Master Plan and Alternatives Overview
• Open House
Welcome
Ben Bergey, Wisconsin State Park System Director
What is Property Planning?

- Also called “master planning”
- NR 44
  - Wisconsin Administrative Code
  - Sets the process DNR uses to master plan its properties.
Why Does DNR Plan Properties?

• Consistent, strategic management on property
Management Alternatives in the Planning Process

Plan Kickoff

Management Alternatives

Idea gathering and issue identification

Conceptual management options formed by planning team

Draft Master Plan

Detailed draft management objectives and prescriptions for public review

Final Proposed Master Plan

Final management objectives and prescriptions for Wisconsin Natural Resources Board approval.
Management Alternatives in the Planning Process

- Scoping
- Management Alternatives
- Draft Master Plan
Management Alternatives

- What are management alternatives?
- How were they formed?
- Overview of each topic and alternative
- But first...
What’s With The Sticky Notes?

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions DNR should answer
What’s With The Sticky Notes?

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions DNR should answer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mountain Biking Management Alternatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 1: Trail System Redesign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 2: Status Quo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Green = What you like  Orange = What you don’t like  Blue = Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Alternative 1: Trail System Redesign</th>
<th>Alternative 2: Status Quo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Supports all skill levels!</td>
<td>Closed too often!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Which trails will be beginner level?</td>
<td>It is too technical!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Keep the trails tough! I come here for a challenge!</td>
<td>Can I fat-tire ride on these trails in winter?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nothing beats the Overlode trail!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are management alternatives?

- Options for management that may be included in the draft master plan
- Public input is valuable information for the planning team as it drafts the master plan.
  - Planning team may adjust alternatives as master plan is drafted

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
How were the management alternatives formed?

- Background data & staff expertise

Initial Scoping Document for the Blue Mound State Park Master Plan
How were the management alternatives formed?

• Initial public input
Project Boundary

• Definition
  – Property vs. Project Boundary

• Two Alternatives
  1. Project Boundary Expansions and Contractions
  2. Status Quo

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions

Iowa County: 921 acres

Contraction: 74 acres
Alternative 1: Project Boundary Changes

• Expansion Areas
  – Trail-based recreation
  – Forest management
  – DNR acquires land from willing sellers only

• Project boundary contraction areas
  – Areas with unlikely to be suitable for expansion
Project Boundary Alternative 2: Status Quo

- Project boundary would remain in its current state
Camping

• Two alternatives
  – Expanded camping
  – Status Quo
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Family Campground Expansion

Bike/Hike Campground Expansion

New group camp

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Mountain Biking

- Alternative 1: Trail System Redesign
- Alternative 2: Status Quo

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Mountain Biking

- Alternative 1: Trail System Redesign
  - Alleviates drainage and erosion issues
  - Create opportunities across a spectrum of skill levels

- Alternative 2: Status Quo
  - Maintains the same, technically challenging popular trails

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Cross-Country Skiing

• Alternative 1: Controlled Crossing
• Alternative 2: Status Quo
One crossing at a controlled intersection

Utilizes former powerline corridor

Parallels road

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Cross-Country Skiing

• Alternative 1 – Controlled Crossing
  – Bridges and boardwalks may be installed as necessary

• Alt 2 – Status Quo
Snowmobiling

• Considerations in creating snowmobile alternatives
  – Maintaining a connection from the Military Ridge State Trail to the existing county trail system north of the park.
  – Ensuring that any snowmobile connection opportunities minimize disruption to other activities.
  – Minimizing snowmobile and nonmotorized use trail crossings.
Snowmobiling

• Alternative 1: Mounds Park – Ryan Road Connector Trail
• Alternative 2: Service Road Trail
• Alternative 3: West and North Slope Trail
• Alternative 4: Status Quo

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Snowmobiling

• Alternative 1: Mounds Park – Ryan Road Connector Trail
  – Keeps motorized uses to existing motorized corridors
  – Nonmotorized trail crossings
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Snowmobiling

• Alternative 2: Service Road Trail
  – Near historical route
  – Largely utilizes existing infrastructure
  – Nonmotorized trail crossings
Snowmobile Alternatives

• Alt 3 – West and North Slope
  – Route in which department lands play a connecting role. Longer trail and likely longer term to completion than others.
  – Nonmotorized Trail Crossings
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Snowmobile Alternatives

- **Alternative 4: Status Quo**
  - Similar to Alternative 1, but snowmobiles route along roads would remain without a trail.
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Nonmotorized Trail Crossings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>Cross-Country Ski Status Quo</th>
<th>Cross-Country Ski Alternative 1</th>
<th>Mountain Bike Status Quo</th>
<th>Mountain Bike Alternative 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile Alternative 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile Alternative 2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile Alternative 3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile Alternative 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Green* = What you like  
*Orange* = What you don’t like  
*Blue* = Questions
Other Recreation Opportunities

• Status Quo Management
• Hiking, Snowshoeing
  – Pedestrian activity

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Resource Management

- Forest Zone
- Oak Transition and Prairie Zone
- Day Use and Camping Zone
Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Resource Management

• Forest Zone
  – Large Hardwoods Management
  – Large Hardwoods Management with Oak Component

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Resource Management

• Oak Transition and Prairie Zone
• Day Use and Camping Zone

Green = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue = Questions
Open House

Green  = What you like
Orange = What you don’t like
Blue   = Questions DNR should answer
Thank You!

Learn more and submit input online!
dnr.wi.gov; keywords “Property Planning”

Phil Rynish, Property Planner
Phillip.Rynish@Wisconsin.gov
608-266-5854