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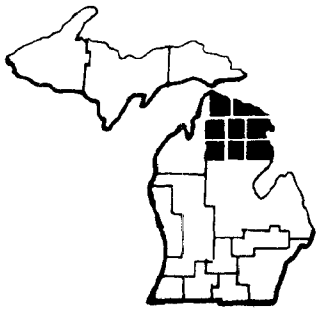
# NEMCOG



MICHIGAN
OCZM GRANT #04-8-M01-334
Subtask 2D-9.1

[redacted]


Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551


SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:

ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE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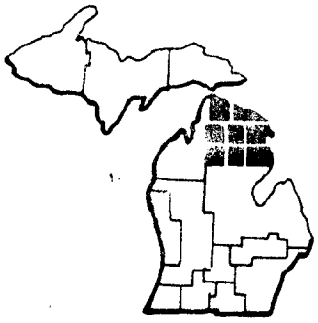

Northeast Michigan Council
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Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

# COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 1979 - 1980 YEAR-END REPORT

August 1980

Northeast Michigan
Council of Governments

This document was prepared through a grant provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, administered by the Office of Coastal Zone Management (OCZM), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce via the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Land Resource Programs Division and in part, with funds from the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments.

HT393.N42.M5 1980

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

29 August 1980

Coastal Program Unit
Land Resource Programs Division
Department of Natural Resources
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Sirs:

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments is pleased to submit its Year-End Report for Michigan's Coastal Management Program in Northeast Michigan for 1979-80.

This document provides detailed information regarding NEMCOG's involvement and various activities in the development and implementation of the Coastal Management Program between October 1, 1979 through August 15, 1980.

As in past years, NEMCOG is happy to have been a part of one of the finest Coastal Programs in the nation and looks forward to continued participation in Michigan's effort to preserve, protect and enhance our Great Lakes and the coastal resources they provide.

Sincerely,

Lew Steinbrecher

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Program Manager

LS:dp

Enclosure



SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:
ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE

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# LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

## LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

NEMCOG's Coastal Program for fiscal year 1980 focused heavily upon local grants assistance. As in previous years, the Council co-sponsored a grants information workshop with the Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission in Petoskey. In addition, NEMCOG conducted another workshop in Alpena for local officials on the eastern edge of the region. Both workshops were well attended and could be considered successful in terms of answering questions and generating ideas for local projects.

The following pages illustrate the workshop announcement which was widely distributed and the attendance list for the Petoskey and Alpena workshops.

NEMCOG staff made follow-up contacts which resulted in the drafting of seven local project proposals from within the region. Four of these proposals were written by NEMCOG staff as part of its grants assistance efforts. Those proposals were for the City of Cheboygan, Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission, the Harrisville Harbor Commission and the Alcona County Planning Commission. The proposals as originally drafted by NEMCOG staff have been included in this section for reference purposes. A fifth proposal was written for the Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission for low-cost construction at the Harrisville Recreation Area but was never submitted for consideration of funding to the Michigan Coastal Management Program because the proposal contained activities which were clearly ineligible to the program.

NEMCOG also responded to several requests for technical assistance during the year. Some of those requests were from the Presque Isle County Planning Commission for zoning revisions, the Beaugrand Township Zoning Board for zoning revisions, the Alpena County Planning Commission for development of a natural areas preserve concept and greenbelting, Alpena Township regarding zoning of various properties along Lake Huron and Alcona Township for review of a recently developed Comprehensive Plan.

# THE SHORELANDER

A NORTHERN MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

## LOCAL OFFICIALS COASTAL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

* *COME AND LEARN HOW YOUR COMMUNITY CAN OBTAIN FUNDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR COASTAL RELATED PROJECTS.*

* *LEARN OF LOCAL COASTAL PROJECTS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN FUNDED IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN*

* *MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM YOUR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES.*

The Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission and the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments are jointly sponsoring a Coastal Workshop directed at local officials in northern lower Michigan. The purpose of the workshop is to inform local officials of project funding opportunities and technical assistance available to them through the State and Regional Coastal Management Programs. Included in the workshop program will be presentations on:

- LOCAL COASTAL PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES
- STATE AND REGIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT EFFORTS
- LOCAL PROJECT FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE
- 1980 MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT SLIDE/TAPE PRESENTATION

The workshop sessions will be held in:

PETOSKEY, January 9 at the City Council Chambers, City/County Building

MANISTEE, January 10 at the meeting room of the Dial-A-Ride Building

ALPENA, January 11 at the City Council Chambers, 2nd floor of Alpena City Hall.

All workshop sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will adjourn by 1 p.m. There is no registration fee, and all sessions are open to the public. The workshop agenda appears on the back of this sheet.


These workshops are funded in part by the Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission, the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

# LOCAL OFFICIALS COASTAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

| | |
|---|---|
| 9:30 A.M. | Coffee and Registration |
| 10:00 A.M. | Introduction and Welcome |
| 10:05 A.M. | Michigan's Coastal Management Program |

* 1980 Slide/Tape Presentation on Michigan's Coastal Management Program (18 minutes)
* 1980 Grant Process and Time Schedule
* Request for Proposals and Grant Application Format

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:00 A.M. | Local Program Implementation |

* Coastal Management Program
* Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission
* Kammer Land Trust Fund
* Land and Water Conservation Fund
* Others (DNR Waterways and Army Corps of Engineers)

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:45 A.M. | Role of Regional Planning Commission |

* Assistance from Coastal Planner
* Newsletter

| | |
|---|---|
| 12:00 P.M. | Adjourn |

* Informal discussion of specific project ideas

PETOSKEY WORKSHOP

9 January 1980

| NAME | AFFILIATION/ADDRESS |
|---|---|
| R. Boda | Cheboygan |
| L. LeBlanc | Cheboygan |
| Rush Cattell | City of Cheboygan Manager |
| John Hess | Charlevoix |
| Jim Brinke | Charlevoix City Manager |
| Lowell Kosloskey | City of Petoskey |
| Richard Gorman | City of Petoskey |
| Jim Graban | Supervisor Bliss Twp. |
| John McKinney | Extension Marine Agent |
| Jerry Felix | City of Harbor Springs |
| Susanne Dye | Little Traverse Conservancy (N.C.M.C.) Petoskey |
| Dave Turning | Antrim County Planning Dept. |
| Charles McKee | Rogers City Manager |
| James E. Leidlein | Rogers City, Interim City Manager |
| Ted Harold | Petoskey Water Resources Commission |
| Harry Pintarelli | Cross Village 49723 |
| Ronald E. Wallin | Village of Mackinaw City President |
| David Warner | Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Div. |
| Stan McRae | Mackinaw City, Wawataw Township Supervisor |
| George Shimek | Traverse City, East Bay Township, Grand Traverse Co. |
| Paul Conlen | Traverse Bay Regional Planning, Traverse City |
| Phil Becker | Granger Engineering, 314 Haynes, Cadillac, Mi. 49601 |
| Bill Smith | NMC Economic Development Center, Traverse City |
| Larry Sullivan | Northwest Mi. Regional Planning & Development Comm. |
| Lew Steinbrecher | Northeast Michigan Council of Governments |

ALPENA WORKSHOP

11 January 1980

| NAME | AFFILIATION-ADDRESS |
|---|---|
| Lew Steinbrecher | NEMCOG, P.O. Box 457, Gaylord, Michigan 49735 |
| John Schwartz | District Marine Agency, Box 599, Tawas City, Mi. |
| Ken Beloskur | City of Harrisville, 49 Main St., 48740 |
| George V. Lintz | Presque Isle County Planning |
| Clyde L. Soper | City Clerk, East Tawas |
| Harry L. Bacon | Edmands Engineering Inc., Bay City |
| John R. Edmands | Edmands Engineering Inc., Bay City |
| Bill Weaver | Wade, Trim and Associates, Taylor |
| John F. Cusick | Vilican-Leman & Associates, 29621 Northwestern Hwy. Southfield, Michigan 48034 |
| Alan Bakalarski | City of Alpena, Administrative Assistant, Planner |
| Ron Thompson | Jesse Besser Museum |
| Dennis R. Bodem | Jesse Besser Museum |
| Howard L. Anderson | Comp. Planning Serv., 113 E. White St., Alpena, Mi. 497[illegible] |
| Donald Read, Sr. | Alcona County Commissioner |
| David W. Rommelmann | Granger Engineering Inc., Gaylord, Michigan 49735 |
| Stan James | Alpena County Parks & Recreation Commission |
| D.H. Riley | Alpena Township Supervisor |
| John Porter | Alpena County Planning Commission, Chairman |
| Bill Jackson | WBKB-TV, Alpena, Michigan 49707 |

Sent to Dick Sella
3/28/80

# LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION AT HARRISVILLE HARBOR

## PROJECT APPLICANT

Harrisville Harbor Commission

## PROJECT LOCATION

The Harrisville Harbor is located along the Lake Huron shoreline of Alcona County in the City of Harrisville. As the accompanying location map depicts, the Harbor is completely within the Coastal Zone boundary as defined by The Michigan Coastal Management Program. The harbor is owned by the City of Harrisville and under the control of the Harrisville Harbor Commission, which is comprised of Alcona County residents. The Harbor is heavily used by boaters and fishermen and is accessible to the public by Lake Street with entrance roads and limited parking facilities at the main harbor entrance or at the DNR Waterways Division boat ramp facility (Dock Street).

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Harrisville Harbor was originally constructed as a joint venture between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the DNR Waterways Commission and the City of Harrisville. In 1978, the Corps of Engineers proposed improvements to the harbor to address four primary problems: 1) Shoreline erosion immediately south of the harbor along private property; 2) Excessive sedimentation caused by littoral drift inside the harbor's breakwaters; 3) Damage to moored boats from storm waves entering the harbor, and; 4) The lack of adequate mooring facilities. A diagram of the proposed improvements which have been approved by the Harrisville Harbor Commission is attached. Additionally, the DNR Waterways Commission has been actively pursuing an acquisition program to purchase private holdings between their boat ramp facility and the main entrance road to the south. This additional land is planned to be utilized to accomodate the heavy parking demands during peak fishing periods.

The Harbor Commission is striving to accelerate and compliment these state and federal improvements through implementation of its own improvement program on the city's property. Through the use of Coastal Management funds, the Harbor Commission proposes the following low-cost construction activities:

1. Landscaping at the mouth of Mill Creek to stabilize the meandering which is presently occuring. This would be done through the placement of wood piling if and when the necessary state and federal permits were approved.

2. Planting of trees and shubbery to stabilize the steep slope from continued people erosion. This would restrict or discourage foot traffic up and down this beach ridge while directing traffic to stairways. It would also eliminate the danger of the grass mowing which is now necessary.

3. Rehabilitate and straighten the existing stairway on the north side of the property and construct a new stairway south of the causeway.

4. Install a retainer wall at the foot of the slope to regulate uncontrolled pedestrian traffic up and down the ridge and provide bench tops to accomodate users of the area.

5. Construct several wooden benches at the top of the ridge for resting and to offer an overview of the harbor and Lake Huron shoreline as well as its horizon.

6. Construct an U-shaped fence around the trash container to conceal rubbish generated at the site.

7. Provide a permanent setting for a historic artifact off of the shipwreck, The Marine City, with a wooden sign describing this relic.

8. Placement of coarse gravel between the existing paved parking lot and split-rail fence at the top of the ridge on the north side of the property to stabilize the earth from heavy foot traffic.

9. Construct a small (about 2,000 sq. ft.) freespan shelter inland from the existing parking lot next to the abandoned house. The city plans to demolish this house next year to provide additional parking and park area consistent with use of this proposed pavilion.

The enclosed site plan identifies the location of the above described activities. City DPW and CETA workers would be used to provide the necessary manual labor for these improvements. City equipment will be used for some of the landscaping, plantings, and other construction activities as needed.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| February 1, 1981 | - | Finalize budget based on material bids and order appropriate supplies |
| April 1, 1981 | - | Materials arrive |
| April 15, 1981 | - | City and Harbor Commission work crews begin construction activities |
| July 15, 1981 | - | Construction of all approved projects completed |

PROJECT BUDGET

Materials and Labor

| | |
|---|---|
| Mill Creek Mouth Landscaping | $ 2,500 |
| Trees and Shrubbery Plantings | 3,500 |
| Stairways | 2,000 |
| Retainer Wall/Benches | 5,500 |
| Wooden Benches (8 @ $350 ea.) | 2,800 |
| Trash Fencing | 1,000 |
| Shipwreck Display | 1,000 |
| Gravel Placement | 1,000 |
| Park Shelter/Pavilion | 8,400 |
| TOTAL EXPECTED COSTS | $27,700 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Requested Federal Funds | $22,160 |
| Local Match (in-kind contribution of materials, equipment, labor, and some cash) | 5,540 |
| TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES | $27,700 |

CONTACT PERSON

Dick Sella
Harrisville Harbor Commission
156 Everett
Harrisville, Michigan 48740

work (517)-724-5178
home (517)-724-5472

# RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

## FOR LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION AT THE HARRISVILLE HARBOR OF REFUGE THROUGH THE MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

*WHEREAS,* The Harrisville Harbor Commission wishes to submit a project for inclusion on the list of projects to be funded by the Michigan Coastal Management Program, and;

*WHEREAS,* This project is the construction of various coastal oriented facilities to compliment use of the Harrisville Harbor of Refuge, and;

*WHEREAS,* The total cost of this project is estimated to be $27,700, and;

*WHEREAS,* The Harrisville Harbor Commission desires to secure financial assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Program to help defray the cost of this project to be matched with in-kind contribution of labor, equipment, material, and, if necessary, funds available from local sources;

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Harrisville Harbor Commission does hereby support and endorse this project and will provide the necessary local match with the Coastal Management Program funds to implement this project.

*Adopted at a meeting the of Harrisville Harbor Commission on* _____ *by a vote of:*
*(date)*

*Ayes* _____

*Nayes* _____

*Absent* _____

*Attested by:* _____
*Chairman*

_____
*Secretary*

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

28 March 1980

Mr. Dick Sella
156 Everett
Harrisville, MI 48740

Dear Dick:

Per your request, I have reviewed the location of the Harrisville Harbor of Refuge and find this facility and its adjoining land to be completely within the defined coastal boundary as identified by Michigan's Coastal Management Program.

The Harrisville Harbor has also been nominated as an Area of Particular Concern (APC) under this program and has long been considered by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments as a high regional priority APC because of the numerous and complex problems associated with this facility. I believe that funding of this project which the Harbor Commission has proposed would do much to alleviate many of your problems. The regional significance of this facility alone deserves serious consideration of the low-cost construction projects you have developed.

NEMCOG's Coastal Program supports this project and encourages the Harrisville Harbor Commission to actively pursue funding under Michigan's Coastal Management Program as they appear to be eligible. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Lew

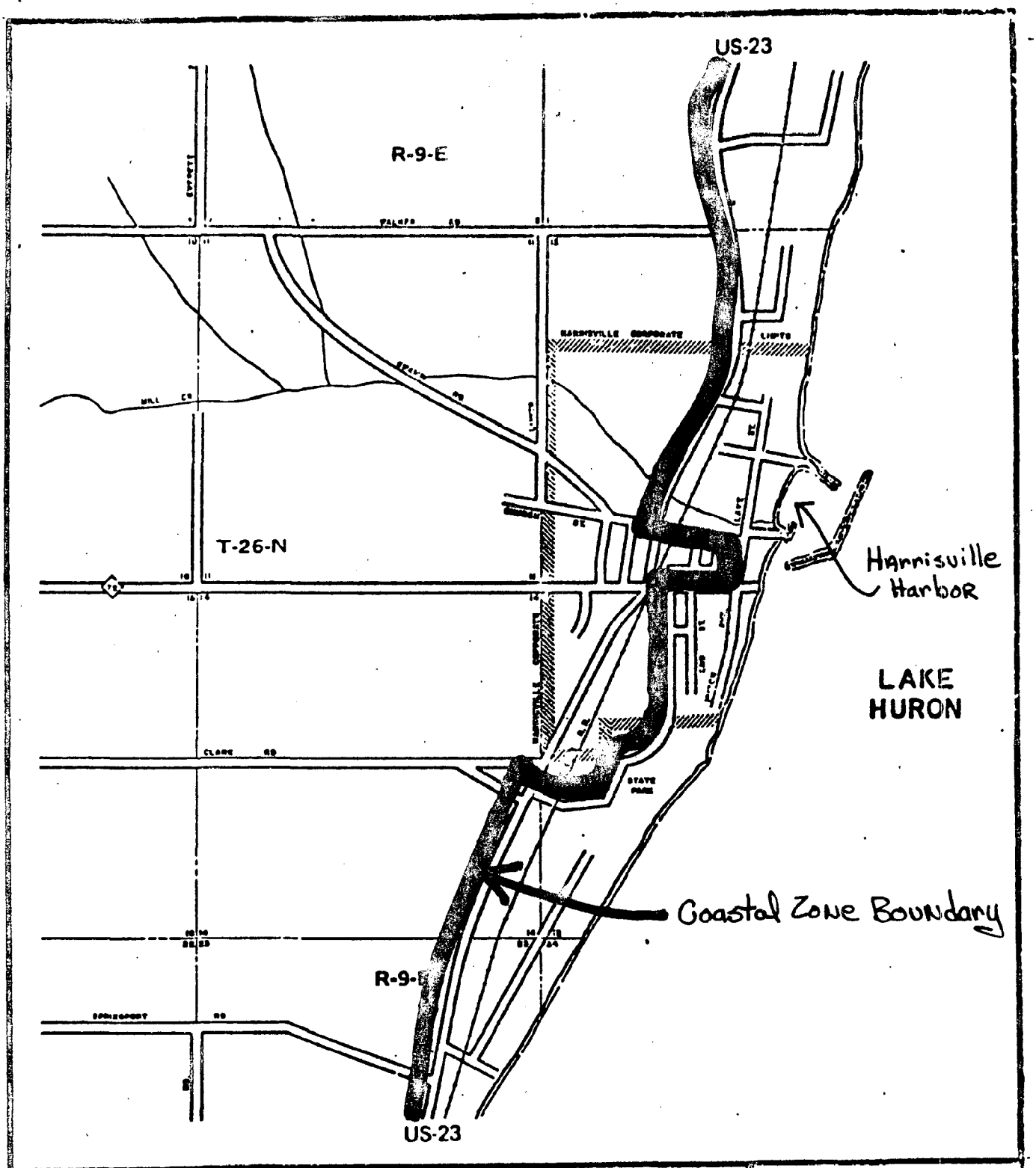
Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner

LS/jm

Enclosure



SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:
ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE




HARRISVILLE

| | Existing | Proposed 0-5 Yr. | Proposed 20 Yr. |
|---|---|---|---|
| SERVICE AREA | | | |
| SEWER LINES | | | |
| LIFT STATION | | | |
| TREATMENT FACILITY | | | |

GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET

0 2000 3000

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The preparation of this graphic was financed through a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration.

Gave a copy and originals of this package to Rush Cottell, City Mgr. - 3/7/80

MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

GRANT PROPOSAL FOR THE
CHEBOYGAN MARSH - GORDON TURNER PARK BOARDWALK

Project Applicant

The City of Cheboygan

Project Location

The Cheboygan Marsh/Gordon Turner Park is located on the west bank of the Cheboygan River mouth and along the Lake Huron shores on the city's north side. The property is completely within the designated coastal zone boundary and is owned by the City of Cheboygan. A map is attached which depicts the location of Gordon Turner Park, the marsh and their relation to the Coastal Boundary. This cattail marsh is approximately 66 acres in size (excluding the park area) and is heavily used by hunters, predominately for ducks. It is the largest cattail marsh on the Great Lakes between Saginaw Bay and Chicago and has an abundant muskrat population. Along with the cattails, this wetland area has a gradation of plant communities which can be described as a shallow sedge meadow and willows. In all, the area contains an interesting coastal wetland environment with a variety of plants, wildlife, amphibians, reptiles, and birds which would provide an excellent opportunity for natural interpretation by residents and visitors. Low-cost construction of a boardwalk with a few observation platforms having proven themselves in other areas on the Great Lakes to be a safe, affective method of providing public access to wetlands while protecting these fragile environments.

The area is presently accessible by a paved city street which is scheduled for improvement because of anticipated traffic volume increases as a result of the new marina, scheduled improvements at Gordon Turner Park and implementation of this boardwalk project.

Project Description

The Cheboygan Marsh Boardwalk Project proposes the completion of construction drawings of the boardwalk platform, a mini-site analysis to determine the location and extent of the boardwalk and observation platforms and low-cost construction of the structure. The mini-site analysis may determine a longer boardwalk with partial construction in FY 81 and extension of the boardwalk to other areas of the marsh to be added in future years.

A private firm would be selected to complete the construction drawings and mini-site analysis to determine the location and extent of the boardwalk/observation platforms. This work would be completed by April 1, 1981 so that city employees and local service club volunteers could begin installation of the boardwalk by mid-April. The construction drawings and mini-site analysis would be approved by the Cheboygan City Council with review and upon the recommendation of the City Planning Commission.

This firm would be required to work with the Department of Natural Resources regards to designation of the marsh as an "Environmental Area" under P.A. 245 of 1970 and for permits which may be necessary under the Great Lakes Submerged Lands Act

Attached to this application is a resolution unanimously adopted by the City Council to endorse this project and commit the necessary local (20%) match. Also attached is a true copy of the property deed showing city ownership of the Cheboygan marsh.

The Northeast Michian Council of Governments has also supported this project as evidenced in the enclosed letter from NEMCOG's Coastal Planner. It is also pointed out that this is a regional endorsed Area of Particular Concern (APC) under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and completion of this project would be consistent with the management recommendation for this APC nomination.

Project Schedule

| | |
|---|---|
| November 1, 1980 | - Select firm to complete construction drawings and mini-site analysis (selective bidding procedure waived due to small dollar amount of this portion of project) |
| February 1, 1981 | - Firm completes work and submits material to City for planning commission review and City Council approval |
| March 15, 1981 | - Review and approval by City complete and order necessary building materials |
| April 1, 1981 | - Material arrives (wood already treated) |
| April 15, 1981 | - City begins construction of boardwalk |
| June 30, 1981 | - Boardwalks completed in accordance with mini-site analysis |

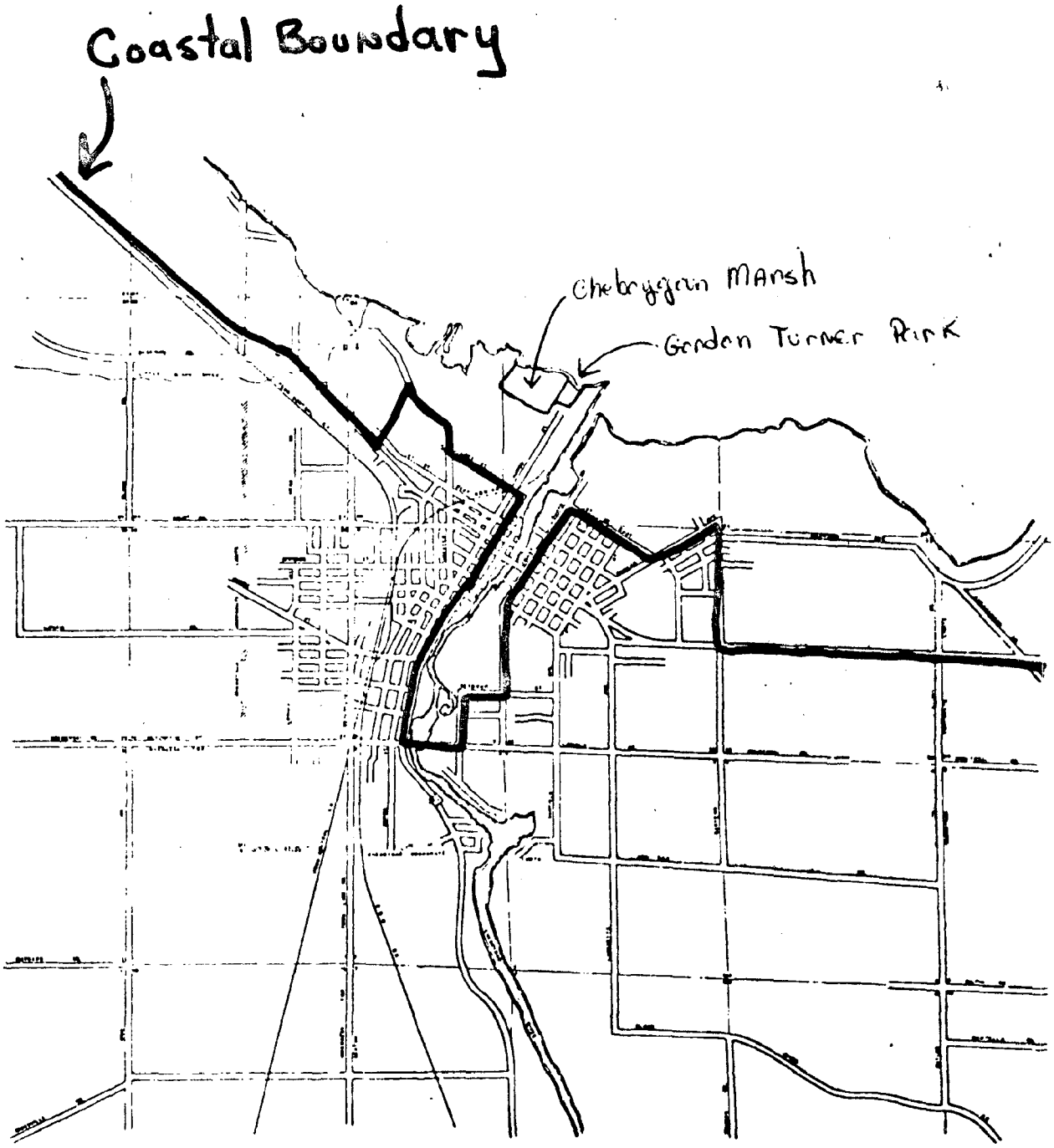
Project Budget

| | |
|---|---|
| Contractual Services<br>*(construction drawings and mini-site analysis)* | $ 1,000 |
| Boardwalk Materials (710 ft.)<br>*(Jennings Price - 6' at $329)* | $39,000 |
| Manual Labor<br>*(City Employees Wages)* | $ 5,000 |
| Total Project Cost | $45,000 |
| Requested Federal Funds | $36,000 |
| Local Match<br>*(In-kind contribution of labor & some materials)* | $ 9,000 |
| TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES | $45,000 |

Contact Person

Mr. ~~Rush Cottrell~~ Stephen Wright, City Manager
City Hall
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Phone: (616) 627-9931




City of Cheboygan

## RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

## FOR A COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

*WHEREAS,* The City of Cheboygan wishes to submit a project for inclusion on the list of projects to be funded by the Michigan Coastal Management Program, and;

*WHEREAS,* This project is the design, engineering, and construction of a boardwalk and observation platform in the area known as the Cheboygan Marsh, and;

*WHEREAS,* The total cost of this project is estimated to be $45,000, and;

*WHEREAS,* The City of Cheboygan desires to secure financial assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Program to help defray the cost of this project to be matched with in-kind contribution of labor and material and, if necessary, funds available from local sources;

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,* that the City of Cheboygan does hereby support and endorse this project and will provide the necessary local match with the Coastal Management Program funds to implement this project.

*Adopted at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Cheboygan on* _____ *by a vote of:*
*(date)*

*Ayes* _____

*Nayes* _____

*Absent* _____

_____
*Mayor*

_____
*Clerk*

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

6 March 1980

Mr. Rush Cattell, City Manager
City Hall
Cheboygan, MI 49721

Dear Rush,

Per your request, I have reviewed the location of the Cheboygan Marsh - Gordon Turner Park property near the mouth of the Cheboygan River, and find it to be entirely located within the coastal boundary as identified in Michigan's Coastal Management Program.

I also wish to certify that this property is a regionally endorsed Area of Particular Concern (APC) by this agency's Natural Resources Advisory Committee and Board of Directors. It appears that completion of this proposed project would not only implement the management recommendation which has been developed for this APC nomination, but would also be a tremendous asset to your community and a regional attraction in Northeast Michigan.

NEMCOG's Coastal Program strongly supports this project and encourages the Department of Natural Resources to seriously consider the funding of it under the Michigan Coastal Management Program.

Sincerely,

Lew Steinbrecher

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner

LS/jm



SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:
ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE

Law's Copy

revised proposal 4/4/80

# HARRISVILLE AREA SPORTS FISHERY
# EXISTING AND POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

## Project Applicant

Alcona County Planning Commission

## Project Location

The Harrisville Area Sports Fishery Existing and Potential Economic Impact Study will focus upon the Lake Huron sport fishing industry as it relates to Alcona County, primarily between Black River and Greenbush. This study area includes the City of Harrisville and is depected on the enclosed location map. The property affected by the many fishing related problems as well as revenues are numerous and include both private and public lands.

## Project Description

How important is the sports fisheries to the economy of the Harrisville area? Estimates range from 30% to 70% of the business comes from people who are fishing on Lake Huron. what special demands for services and facilities does this fishing industry create? How do the Harrisville people benefit and pay the cost coming from fishing? The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have approved plans to improve facilities at Black River and Harrisville, but have yet to begin implementing those plans. DNR agencies, including Parks, Waterways and Fisheries Divisions have programs which attract many people into these communities. The Waterways Commission through their boat ramp program, and the Fisheries Division with the salmon and lake trout plantings are having the greatest impacts. The Harrisville Harbor Commission is attempting to answer some of the concerns being expressed as well. The Harrisville State Park experienced a 433% use increase of that facility between the fall of 1970 and the fall of 1976. An increasing demand for limited facilities is creating many diverse and complex problems for a very small community of 638 (1980 estimate) people. Law enforcement has a serious problem with overnnight camping along Lake Huron in Alcona County. It is cheaper for campers to pay overnight parking fines than to use the State Parks or rent a motel room.

Additionally, there is a need to better understand the type of people who are fishing in this area to determine the kinds of improvements they think are necessary to solve some of these problems. It is important to begin questioning the fishermen by September 15, 1980 because the early sports fisherman is generally a boater while later in the season, they are usually snaggers and these two groups may perceive the situation differently. A spring questionnaire would be very useful as well because the lake trout fishermen comprise a third group of sports fishermen. By improving and expanding certain facilities, more fingerings could perhaps be planted to attract more tourists into the community. Establishment of an adequate size parking lot further inland with shuttle bus service to the waterfront during peak fishing periods may be another appropriate alternative.

In short, the sports fishing industry is booming in Alcona County and no one knows what all of the physical, economic and social impacts of the business has on these Lake Huron communities. The Harrisville Area Sports Fishery Existing and Potential Economic Impact Study would address all of the above concerns and develop a strategy to solve existing problems while enhancing potential opportunities. This proposed study is supported by many people including Chamber of Commerce, private commercial establishments, residents, Lake Huron Sports Fishing Association, local officials and others. This study would encompass the following activities:

A) A market survey of the tourists to determine what the visiting fishermen perceive to be deficiencies in present facilities, both public and private, and their solution to the parking problems. (Three different samplings - fall salmon, spring lake trout near shore and summer lake trout off-shore fishermen).

B) A community questionnaire to understand the local attitutdes towards the revenues and problems generated by the sports fishing industry.

C) A commercial business survey to determine the importance of the sports fisheries on the economy of Lake Huron communities.

D) Develop a strategy to encourage the various state, federal and local agencies to implement their role in solving these various problems and/or enhancing opportunities which are now untapped or under utilized. (Identify responsibilities).

E) Establish a steering committee of state, federal, local, private, commercial, fishing interest representatives and various resource people to guide development of this study and report findings to the planning commission.

F) Develop a time frame for the implementation of the strategy for the proper timing of necessary improvements and their anticipated impacts for increasing or decreasing recreational opportunities.

G) Address the impacts of rail passenger service on the sports fisheries along Lake Huron in Alcona County.

H) Investigate other funding sources such as the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission (UGLRC) for local project responsibilities.

Project Schedule

September 1, 1980 - Establish steering committee and hold at least six meetings before June 1, 1981.

September 15, 1980 - Conduct survey of fisherman (this is important to do immediately because of the fall salmon run which usually begins in the middle of September).

November 1, 1980 - Conduct community questionnaire of residents and commercial establishments.

December 1, 1980 to July 1, 1981 - Develop strategy, identifying role of each involved agency, including certain time frames for specific task assignments.

March 15, 1981 - Preliminary report or working paper presented to steering committee and Planning Commission for review and comments.

April 1981 to June 1981 - Conduct questionnaire of the spring lake trout fishermen (near shore).

Weekends of July/August 1981 - Conduct questionnaire of weekend lake trout fishermen (off shore).

August 1, 1981 - Incorporate impact of rail passenger service potential and possible outside funding sources to assist communities to implement local responsibilities into the publication of a study document.

August 15, 1981 - Approval of report by Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission and submittal to DNR.

July - August 1981 - Conduct weekend questionnaire of the off shore lake trout fishermen. (This group is generally more affluent with the large pleasure crafts and bigger wallets).

Project Budget

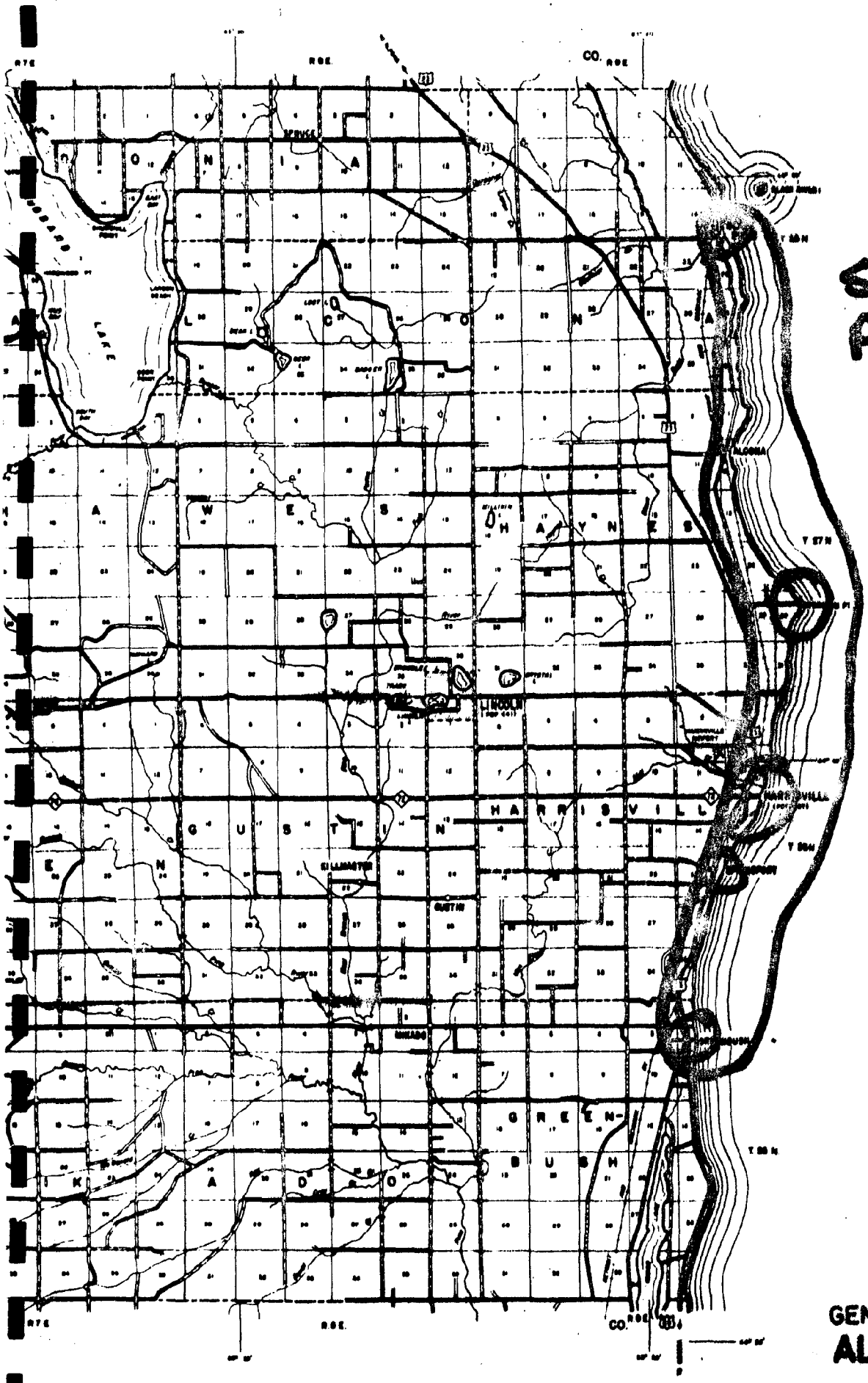
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Per diem of ~~Parks and Recreation Committee~~ Planning Commission and Steering Committee | $ 1,200 | |
| Travel | 400 | |
| Contractual Services (University of Michigan or Michigan State University) | 12,000 | |
| Printing | 600 | |
| TOTAL EXPECTED COSTS | | $14,200 |
| Requested Federal Funds | $11,360 | |
| Local Match (In-kind contribution of labor and necessary cash) | 2,840 | |
| TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES | | $14,200 |

Contact Person

John Grzeskowiak
3182 Lake Shore Dr.
Harrisville, Michigan 48740

(517) 724-5282

Chairman of the Alcona County Planning Commission




STUDY AREA

KEY TO COUNTIES

GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP
ALCONA COUNTY
MICHIGAN
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF STATE HIGHWAYS

ALCONA COUNTY ~~PARKS~~ PLANNING AND ~~RECREATION~~ COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

*concerning*

HARRISVILLE SPORTS FISHERY ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

WHEREAS, The Alcona County ~~Parks and Recreation~~ Planning Commission recognizes both the importance of the sports fishing industry to the economy of Lake Huron coastal communities as well as the problems generated by this industry, and;

WHEREAS, The Alcona County ~~Parks and Recreation~~ Planning Commission wishes to apply for financial assistance through the Michigan Coastal Management Program to conduct an economic impact study and will provide the necessary local match to secure this financial assistance, and;

WHEREAS, The total cost of this study is estimated to be $14,200;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alcona County ~~Parks and Recreation~~ Planning Commission does hereby announce its desire to apply for funds through the Michigan Coastal Management Program to help defray the cost of this study on an 80% Federal/20% local matching basis to conduct the Harrisville Area Sports Fisheries Economic Impact Study and will provide the necessary local match to secure these funds.

*Moved by* Jack Haugton, *supported by* Carol Beard

*to adopt the above resolution at a meeting of the Alcona County* ~~Parks and Recreation~~ Planning *Commission held on* 4-3-80 *(date)*

*and a vote of:*

*Ayes* unanimous

*Nays* ____

*attested by* John R. Grzeskowiak

(Chairman)
Alcona County Planning Commission

LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION AT JOE LAMARRE PARK

ON THE THUNDER BAY RIVER, ALPENA

Project Applicant

Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission

Project Location

The Joe LaMarre Park is located on the south bank of the Thunder Bay River in the City of Alpena, downstream from the Ninth Street bridge. The park is located in its entirety within the coastal zone boundary as defined by Michigan's Coastal Management Program. The property is owned and maintained by the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission. Please refer to the attached map which depicts the location of The LaMarre Park in relationship to the Coastal boundary.

Project Description

The proposal calls for implementation of the site design of LaMarre Park through the following low-cost construction activities:

1. The placement of approximately 1000 feet of cedar-post split-rail fencing along the ridge of the river bank to discourage foot traffic up and down the slope (prevent people erosion)and to direct automobile traffic to the desired parking area at the entrance of the park.

2. Construction and placement of eight wooden benches eight (8) feet in length behind the split-rail fence along the ridge of the riverbank to provide scenic waterfront views of the Thunder Bay River.

3. Construction of a 13,000 square foot (approximate) park shelter in the center of the property to serve as a focal point for numerous passive recreation activities which is the primary purpose of this park.

4. Placement of top soil on the slope of the riverbank and in various locations of the park and other landscaping (including the removal of existing driveway) to stabilize and promote the growth of grass and other vegetation in the park.

5. Planting of trees and shrubbery (including creeping ivy) and grass seedings in pre-determined locations to enhance the attractiveness of the park for passive-oriented recreational opportunities.

6. Construction and placement of an approximately 300 foot wooden dock/boardwalk between the two existing stairways for use by fishermen casting into the Thunder Bay River (deep channel just off shore), tie-ups for boats and other watercraft (frequently used by fishermen), pedestrian traffic and other similar uses. This dock would be hinged so as to be placed on shore during the winter months and prevent damage by ice and currents.

7. Construction and placement of six picnic tables on the park property in the general area of the proposed pavilion.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has a full-time Parks and Recreation Coordinator totally paid out of its local budget and who is a skilled craftsman who is able to and has constructed pavilions, benches and picnic tables for use at other county parks and would be used to construct these same structures at the LaMarre Park. The Parks and Recreation Commission also has several CETA employees who would be used for manual labor but would not be considered local match to this project. The plantings of trees and some landscaping would most likely be done by a local nursery, but the placing of top soil, grass seeding, and construction of wooden structures would be completed by the Coordinator and the CETA employees whom he supervises. It is also planned to have these employees clean up the concrete blocks and other trash which is along the shoreline and partially underwater. This work, however, is not intended to be used as local match in this proposal but rather to show the commitment which the Parks and Recreation Commission has to develop this property for waterfront-oriented recreation activities.

Project Schedule

| | |
|---|---|
| October, 1980 | Obtain wood through cutting of cedar trees at other county parks, contribution, and if necessary, purchase at lumber yards. |
| November, 1980-March, 1981 | Parks Coordinator builds picnic tables, benches, and as much as possible, the park shelter and prepares cedar for the split-rail fencing. |

| | |
|---|---|
| February, 1981 | Secure contract with local nursery for purchase of top soil, shrubbery, and grass seeding to be used by employees in spring. |
| March, 1981 | Locate and contract with local nursery for the planting of several trees on the property. |
| April, 1981 | Nursery plants trees and employees begin work on the installation of wooden structures on the property (including shingles for the park shelter). |
| July 1, 1981 | Construction and installation completed. |

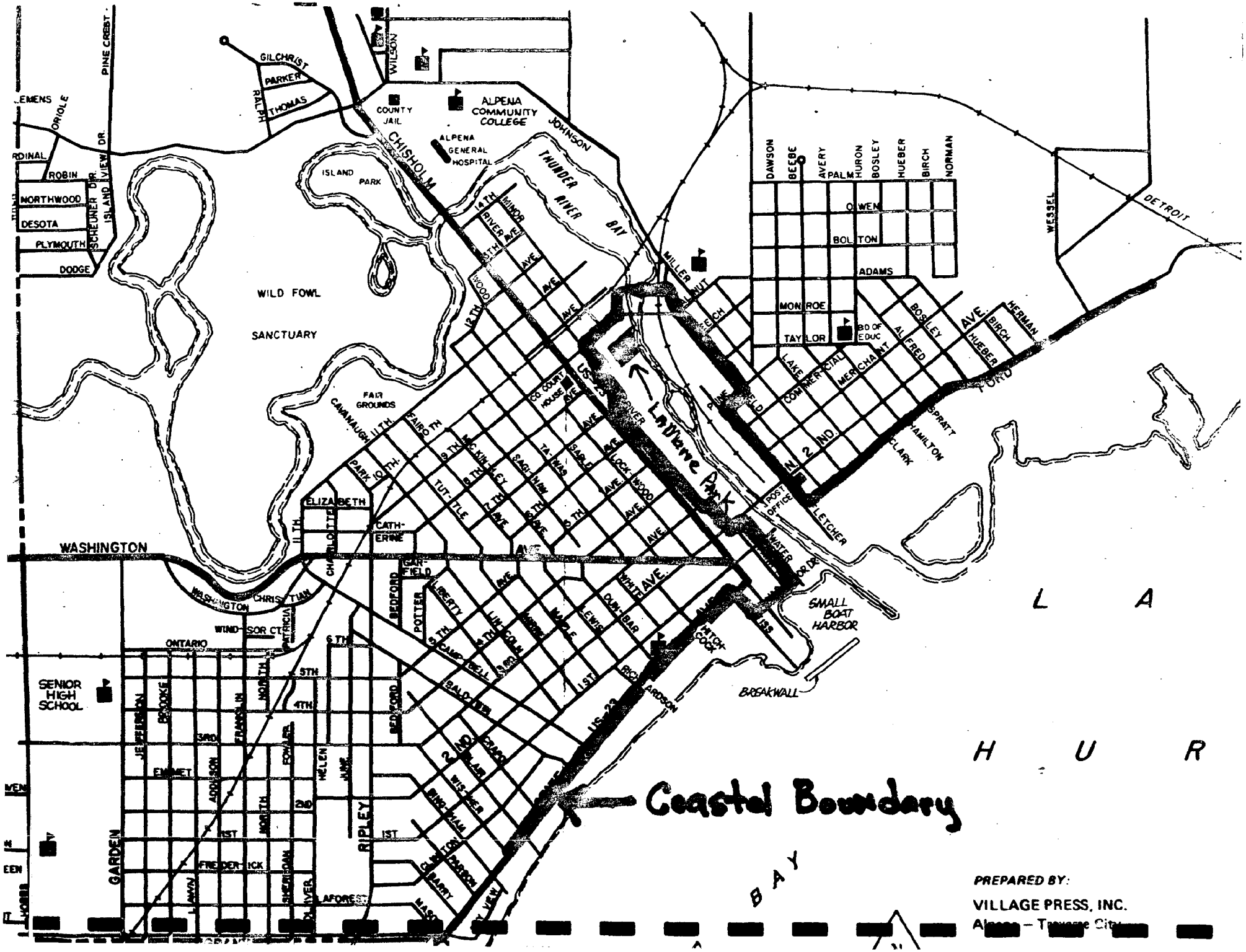
Project Budget

| | |
|---|---|
| Coordinator's Salary (4 man months) | $ 3,700 |
| Lumber material for benches, picnic tables, dock pavilion and split-rail fencing | 13,000 |
| Top soil and grass/shrubbery | 3,500 |
| Tree planting/landscaping (sub-contract) | 6,000 |
| TOTAL EXPECTED COSTS | $26,200 |
| Requested Federal Funds | $20,960 |
| Local Match (in-kind contribution of material and labor) | 5,240 |
| TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES | $26,200 |

Contact Person

Mr. Joe LaMarre
Peoples Bank and Trust of Alpena
200 W. Chisholm Street
Alpena, Michigan 49707
Telephone (517) 356-2241

Note: A resolution to confirm the Parks and Recreation Commission's support and commitment of local match will be forwarded upon passage at the next meeting.




PREPARED BY:
VILLAGE PRESS, INC.
Alpena – Traverse City

# AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

## AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments maintained and augmented its files on ninety-nine Areas of Particular Concern (APC) for the Lake Huron coastline in the region. NEMCOG staff and its Natural Resources Advisory Committee reviewed and took regional action on three new APC nominations and several existing nominations. The Surf Park Plat - Dakota Lane was one of the new nominations because of a proposed fill activity in a coastal wetland. Another new APC, the Marine Recording Station in Mackinaw City, was nominated by its owner because of its historic significance as the first marine recording station on the Great Lakes. This historical landmark was also entered into the National Register of Historical Places during May 1980. The third new APC nomination was the Harrisville Recreation Area because of its multi-purpose recreational values which have not yet been totally developed. The Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission, caretakers of the site, seriously considered submitting a low-cost construction grant proposal to the Michigan Coastal Management Program (see Local Assistance Programs). Documentation on these APC's appear on the next few pages.

At least three other existing Area of Particular Concern nominations were reviewed by NEMCOG during the last year as part of the Michigan Coastal Management Program. These APC's reviewed were the Presque Isle Lighthouse for its consideration to the National Register of Historic Places, the Rockport Sinkholes because of the management study and related efforts by NEMCOG, and the El Cajon Bay Sinkholes for its land acquisition proposal before the Michigan Land Trust Fund Board. Miscellaneous materials such as letters, newspaper clippings and other pertinent information was added to the files of a number of other APC nominations and copies forwarded to the DNR Coastal Program at the time such material was placed in NEMCOG files.

Nominator: Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner
Address: Northeast Michigan Council of Govt's
P.O.Box 457, 408 W. Main St.
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

8 1979

COASTAL AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION FORM

Name of area nominated: SURF PARK PLAT - DAKOTA LANE

Location: County Presque Isle County
Township, City or Village Bearinger Township
Boundary features (rivers, roads, section lines, etc.)
Surf Park Plat, lot numbers 35 thru 40 and 47 thru 49,
Section 10 and 15, T37N, R2E.

Present Ownership: Spens Construction Incorporated

Under which category does this area qualify? (Please check only one)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | high risk erosion | | island |
| | flood hazard | | coastal lake, rivermouth, bay |
| XX | ecologically sensitive | | urban |
| | natural area | | mineral resource |
| | recreation area | | agricultural |
| | historic and archeologic site | | prime industrial |
| | sand dune | | water transportation |

Why is this area of particular concern to you? (physical characteristics, damages opportunities, present use, problems, etc.)
A fragile coastal wetland environment presently proposed to be filled in for residential development.

What do you think should be done with the area? (public acquisition, local zoning, preservation, etc.)
Denial of Section 404 permit by Army Corps of Engineers, denial of Great Lakes Submerged Lands permit by Michigan DNR and denial of 347 (Soil Erosion and Sedimentati permit by Presque Isle County.

Other comments:
There are sufficient subdivided parcels of land in this part of the County with more suitable soils for residential development than this piece of property.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Citizen Shorelands Advisory Council
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

OR:

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
P. O. BOX 457
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49735

Nominator: Fran & Louis Babcock
Address: 516 N Huron Blvd.
Mackinaw City, Mich.

MAR 11 1980

COASTAL AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION FORM

Name of area nominated: Marine Recording Station - Built 1882

Location: County Cheboygan
Township, City or Village Mackinaw City
Boundary features (rivers, roads, section lines, etc.) Boundary is N. Huron Blvd on the South & The Straits of Mackinaw on the north

Present Ownership: Fran & Louis Babcock - we restored the house & office - we only modernized for convience

Under which category does this area qualify? (Please check only one)

used as a marker of the tip of the mit before the Rd Island Lighthouse

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ____ | high risk erosion | ____ | island |
| ____ | flood hazard | ____ | coastal lake, rivermouth, bay |
| ____ | ecologically sensitive | ____ | urban |
| ____ | natural area | ____ | mineral resource |
| ____ | recreation area | ____ | agricultural |
| XX | historic and archeologic site | ____ | prime industrial |
| ____ | sand dune | ____ | water transportation |

Why is this area of particular concern to you? (physical characteristics, damages opportunities, present use, problems, etc.) The northern tip of lower peninsula if we had not purchased the property it would be gone now & a motel here! We're surrounded by business. This area is very old & historic yet very little remains that's original, both buildings & natural - trees shore line

What do you think should be done with the area? (public acquisition, local zoning, preservation, etc.) It is already a Michigan Historical Site & is being considered for the National Register of Historic Places we hope this will come to be. The area should be yoked locally non-commercial & historic area.

Other comments: We love this area & the house but even if we did not live here we hope you would protect the area in every way you could so everyone could see Michigan wants to keep its beauty & history too, as the east coast & New England area does. Let's not keep distraying!

PLEASE RETURN TO:

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Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

OR:

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
P. O. BOX 457
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49735

Nominator: Lew Ste[illegible]recher
Address: Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P.O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

## COASTAL AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION FORM

**Name of area nominated:** MARINE RECORDING STATION

**Location:** County Cheboygan
Township, City or Village Mackinaw City
**Boundary features (rivers, roads, section lines, etc.)**
516 North Huron Boulevard, east of the Mackinaw Lighthouse.

**Present Ownership:** Fran and Lewis Babcock

**Under which category does this area qualify? (Please check only one)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | high risk erosion | _____ | **island** |
| _____ | flood hazard | _____ | **coastal lake, rivermouth, bay** |
| _____ | ecologically sensitive | _____ | **urban** |
| _____ | natural area | _____ | **mineral resource** |
| _____ | recreation area | _____ | **agricultural** |
| XX | historic and archeologic site | _____ | **prime industrial** |
| _____ | sand dune | _____ | **water transportation** |

**Why is this area of particular concern to you? (physical characteristics, damages opportunities, present use, problems, etc.)**
First marine recording station on the Great Lakes. A significant historic connected with the commerce of Great Lakes Shipping activities.

**What do you think should be done with the area? (public acquisition, local zoning, preservation, etc.)** The structure should be seriously considered for placement on the National Register of Historic Places and preserved as part of the marine heritage of the State of Michigan and the nation.

**Other comments:** Implementation of the above management recommedation would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Michigan Coastal Management Program as approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Citizen Shorelands Advisory Council
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

OR:

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
P. O. BOX 457
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49735

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RICHARD H. AUSTIN SECRETARY OF STATE

LANSING
MICHIGAN 48918

MICHIGAN HISTORY DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION, ARCHIVES, HISTORIC SITES, AND PUBLICATIONS
3423 N. Logan Street
517-373-0510
STATE MUSEUM
505 N. Washington Avenue
517-373-0515

May 29, 1980

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Babcock
516 North Huron Boulevard
P.O. Box 187
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Babcock:

It is my pleasure to join with the State Historic Preservation Review Board in informing you that the Forrest J. Stimpson House/Mackinaw City Marine Recording Station, Mackinaw City, Cheboygan County, has recently been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. The Forrest J. Stimpson House/Marine Recording Station was nominated for listing in the National Register because the Michigan History Division of the Department of State and the State Historic Preservation Review Board believed it to be a site of outstanding historical and architectural significance. It was formally accepted for registration by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, on May 12, 1980.

Our office has appreciated the opportunity to work with you on the designation of this site. We hope that you will contact us if there is anything we can do to assist you in the future.

Sincerely,

Martha M. Bigelow

Martha M. Bigelow
Director, Michigan History Division
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

MMB/cp

cc: Village of Mackinaw City President and Councilmembers
Director, Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
President and Members, Historical Socoety of Cheboygan Co, Inc.
Editor, Cheboygan Daily Tribune
Editor, The Cheboygan Observer

Nominator: ALCONA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Address: COUNTY BUILDING
HARRISVILLE, MI.
48740

DEC 13 1979

COASTAL AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION FORM

Name of area nominated: HARRISVILLE RECREATION AREA

Location: County ALCONA
Township, City or Village HARRISVILLE
Boundary features (rivers, roads, section lines, etc.) 17 ACRES WITHIN 300/400 FT OF LAKE HURON EAST PROPERTY LINE

Present Ownership: ALCONA COUNTY

Under which category does this area qualify? (Please check only one)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ____ | high risk erosion | ____ | island |
| ____ | flood hazard | X | coastal lake, rivermouth, bay |
| ____ | ecologically sensitive | ____ | urban |
| ____ | natural area | ____ | mineral resource |
| ✓ | recreation area | ____ | agricultural |
| ____ | historic and archeologic site | ____ | prime industrial |
| ____ | sand dune | ____ | water transportation |

Why is this area of particular concern to you? (physical characteristics, damages opportunities, present use, problems, etc.) AREA NEWLY ACQUIRED BY COUNTY. DEVELOPMENT NEEDED TO ATTRACT MORE TRANSIENT/TOURIST AND LOCAL RESIDENT USE. AREA HAS MANY POSSIBILITIES. WAS PREVIOUSLY USED AS A FAIRGROUNDS

What do you think should be done with the area? (public acquisition, local zoning, preservation, etc.) AREA SHOULD BE DEVELOPED AS A SCENIC PICNIC AND multi-PURPOSE RECREATION AREA HIGHLIGHTING ITS SPLENDID VIEW OF LAKE HURON. POSSIBLY A GOOD SITE FOR AN OBSERVATION TOWER.

Other comments: *SEE ATTACHED PHOTOS

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Citizen Shorelands Advisory Council
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

OR:

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
P. O. BOX 457
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49735

Nominator: [illegible]
Address: County Courthouse
Harrisville, Michigan 48740

MAR 6 1980

COASTAL AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION FORM

Name of area nominated: HARRISVILLE RECREATION AREA

Location: County Alcona
Township, City or Village City of Harrisville
Boundary features (rivers, roads, section lines, etc.)
North end of Lake Street near the city's northern limits.

Present Ownership: Alcona County (Parks and Recreation Commission)

Under which category does this area qualify? (Please check only one)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ____ | high risk erosion | ____ | island |
| ____ | flood hazard | ____ | coastal lake, rivermouth, bay |
| ____ | ecologically sensitive | ____ | urban |
| ____ | natural area | ____ | mineral resource |
| XX | recreation area | ____ | agricultural |
| ____ | historic and archeologic site | ____ | prime industrial |
| ____ | sand dune | ____ | water transportation |

Why is this area of particular concern to you? (physical characteristics, damages opportunities, present use, problems, etc.)
Excellant site to accomodate many outdoor recreational needs in the Harrisville community including the problems associated with the sports fishing tourist industry in the area/

What do you think should be done with the area? (public acquisition, local zoning, preservation, etc.)
Support efforts of the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop site designs and construction of necessary facilities to meet the needs presently being placed upon the property.

Other comments:

PLEASE RETURN TO:

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Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

OR:

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
P. O. BOX 457
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49735

# SPECIAL COASTAL ACTIVITIES

## SPECIAL COASTAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to the local grants and technical assistance efforts and the Areas of Particular Concern (APC) processes, NEMCOG staff performed a variety of special activities related to coastal program matters. These efforts are summarized in this section of the Year-End Report.

### Rockport Sinkholes

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments completed work on the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study during the past year. The project was essentially terminated during March 1980 when Consumers Power Company withdrew its offer to lease the property around the sinkholes because no governmental agency or responsible organization was willing to enter into such an agreement to make the area accessible to the public. A number of documents have been incorporated into this report on the following pages to reference specific activities as part of this study.

While there was considerable support locally for the project, the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Center concept was not received well by the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners (the only local group to not support the project) and a couple of State agencies. While both the DNR Parks Division and the DNR Forest Management Division thought the concept was a good one, neither were receptive to the suggestion that they enter the lease agreement with Consumers Power Company to develop and maintain nature trails to the sinkholes. The NEMCOG study recommended one of these two state agencies because of the inability of local units of government or organization to adequately undertake the project and their inability or unwillingness to jointly develop the nature trail concept.

Toward the end of the study, NEMCOG staff was contacted by Gilbert/Commonwealth, a private consultant from Jackson, Michigan retained by Consumers Power Company, for various information on the Rockport property. This information was being used in an evaluation of the site to determine the potential of the area for construction and operation of an electrical generating plant. Consumers Power Company had openly stated in the early development of the NEMCOG Sinkhole Study that the 3600 acre Rockport site was one of eight sites

in Michigan under consideration by the utility for the location of their next power plant. No results of that study nor decision regarding the selection of the Rockport property for power plant development has been made known to NEMCOG at this time.

THE SENATE

STATE OF MICHIGAN

STATE SENATOR MITCH IRWIN
37TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
TELEPHONE: 517—373-1725

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES ON:
MUNICIPALITIES AND ELECTIONS, CHAIRMAN
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, VICE-CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION AND TOURIST INDUSTRY
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING, VICE-CHAIRMAN

December 7, 1979

Dr. W. Randolph Frykberg
Acting Director
Northeast Michigan Council of
Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, MI 49735

Dear Dr. Frykberg:

In response to your letter of November 14, I want to offer you my support and interest in your endeavors. Further, I think that your meeting with Mr. Harry Whiteley of the Natural Resource Commission and members of a steering committee concerned about the preservation of the fragile Rockport sinkholes and scenic Ferron Point shoreline is a positive step.

In an effort to be further informed and to provide you with whatever assistance may be helpful in negotiating the lease agreement, I will be represented at your meeting on December 11 by Kathy Pelleran of my staff, who is a district representative for northeast Michigan. I've asked Kathy to make herself available to listen, learn and help in any way possible.

You have an impressive list of allies with Dr. Kane, Mr. Lamy and others, and I wish you the best. Please advise me as to how I can be of help.

Sincerely,

Mitch Irwin
State Senator

MI:mk

ALPENA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Planning Commission has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG Study, the Alpena County Planning Commission concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property, has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Planning Commission concurs with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Planning Commission does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Planning Commission does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above Resolution was passed by the Alpena County Planning Commission on* 1/02/80 *(date) by motion from* Lee, *supported by* Allen, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 10

*Nayes* 0

*Attested by:* Joyce Cohen
*Vice Chairman, Alpena County Planning Commission*

THE THUNDER BAY AUDUBON SOCIETY

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Thunder Bay Audubon Society has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Thunder Bay Audubon Society concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Thunder Bay Audubon Society concurs with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Thunder Bay Audubon Society does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Thunder Bay Audubon Society does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Thunder Bay Audubon Society on* January 9, 1980 *(date) by motion from* Bob Allen, *supported by* Sharon Smith, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 23

*Nayes* —

*Attested by:* James Lazenbourg
*President, Thunder Bay Audubon Society*

THE ALPENA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission on* 1-10-80 *(date), by motion from* Wm. McDonnell, *supported by* Stan James, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 8

*Nayes* 0

*Attested by:* Martin A. Thomas

*(Chairman)*

THE PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLES AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees has reviewed the Rockport Sinkholes Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees concurs with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments' conclusion that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees*

*on* JAN 14, 1980 *(date) by motion from* CRAME,

*supported by* BARNETT, *and a vote of:*

Ayes 3 - Supervisor Barnett, Trustee Crame, Treasurer - Tadajewski

Nayes 1 - Clerk Spencer

Attested by: Michael D Barnett

Presque Isle Township Supervisor

R. D. Spencer, Clerk

THE PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle Township Planning Commission has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Presque Isle Township Planning Commission concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has annouced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle Township Planning Commission believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease agreement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle Township Planning Commission does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle Township Planning Commission does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Presque Isle Township Planning Commission on* 1-15-80 *(date) by motion from* Russell Moore, *supported by* Richard Beuter, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 5

*Nayes* ____

*Attested by:* [signature] *Chairman*

The League of Women Voters of Alpena County supports the preservation of the sinkhole area on Consumers Power property in Presque Isle Township. The League believes that this can be best accomplished with the development of an interpretative center and trails which would encompass the sinkholes and Ferron Point. The parks division of the DNR would be the best agency to serve as leasee.

Agnes Filgues
President

1/16/80

THE PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

# RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle County Planning Commission has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Government under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Presque Isle County Planning Commission concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle County Planning Commission believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle County Planning Commission does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Government, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle County Planning Commission does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Presque Isle County Planning Commission on* January 17, 1980 *(date) by motion from* Dailey, *supported by* Lintz, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 8

*Nayes* 0

ABSENT 1

*Attested by:* R. E. Alanen
*Chairman*

THE ALPENA TOWNSHIP PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above resolution was passed by the Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission on* January 18, 1980 *(date) by motion from* Riley, *supported by* Carr, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 5

*Nayes* 0

*Attested by:* Maurice A. VanCuren
(Chairman)

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

FULL COUNCIL

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A RESOLUTION

*endorsing*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE MANAGEMENT STUDY

WHEREAS, the staff of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments has prepared, with assistance and coordination from Consumers Power Company, Thunder Bay Audubon Society, Alpena League of Women Voters, Department of Natural Resources and others, the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as part of the Michigan Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, the NEMCOG Natural Resources Advisory Committee, a duly organized advisory committee to the Full Council under the NEMCOG Bylaws, has reviewed and endorsed this study and has recommended similar action by the Full Council of NEMCOG, and;

WHEREAS, the development of a nature interpretive center at Rockport has received much local support, and;

WHEREAS, based upon the advice of the Natural Resources Advisory Committee and NEMCOG staff, and with the knowledge that Consumers Power Company has announced their desire to negotiate a lease arrangement with some public agency to provide public access and nature interpretation to the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property, the NEMCOG Full Council believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks Division, is the most appropriate agency to enter into a lease agreement and develop such an interpretive center;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Full Council of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as part of the Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Full Council of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments does hereby direct and encourage its staff to pursue implementation of the Rockport Nature Interpretive Center concept under the authority of this agency's Coastal Management Program.

*Above Resolution was passed by the Full Council of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments at its regular meeting of* 15 January 1980 *(date) by motion from* J. Burch, *supported by* K. Apsey, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 16

*Nayes* 0

*Abstained* 4

*Attested by* Thomas W. Martin
*Thomas Martin, President*
*NEMCOG*

SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:

ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE

ALPENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION

*regarding*

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AND FERRON POINT PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Board of Commissioners has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG Study, the Alpena County Board of Commissioners concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property, has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Alpena County Board of Commissioners concurs with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Board of Commissioners does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alpena County Board of Commissioners does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

*The above Resolution was passed by the Alpena County Board of Commissioners on* January 23-80 *(date) by motion from* Commissioner Phillips, *supported by* Comms'r MacNall, *and a vote of:*

*Ayes* 9

*Nayes* 2

*Attested by:* Pauline E. LaCross

*Chairman, Alpena County Board of Commissioners*

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

30 January 1980

Mr. Richard Dahlquist
Consumers Power Company
305 South St.
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Dear Dick,

I would like to thank you and your company for the interest and cooperation which has been extended to me, NEMCOG and the Alpena citizens group during the past one and a half years on the Rockport Sinkhole project. Since the Company's annoucement last October to negotiate a lease with a responsible public agency for this property, I have been working on locating and encouraging a number of governmental entities to take the lead on this project.

I believe that for the time being, all feasible alternatives have been exhausted and it may be some time yet before a governmental agency will step forward on this project. However, the concept of a nature trail at the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property has been well received and has much local and state support.

There are a number of concerns which have been expressed by local and state agencies which cannot be adequately addressed. The power plant location, use of adjoining state land, length and location of the trails and tax relief are issues which are outside the role of NEMCOG. With this and limited financial assistance under the Coastal Management Program will greatly decrease my continued involvement in this project. I also realize that the lease offer can not be extended indefinitely. As such, I am not very optimistic about the immediate future of this project.

NEMCOG has also been criticized for influencing Consumers Power Company's decision-making process for the selection of Rockport as the next power plant location. While I do not believe this is true, I do not want it to appear as though it has.

I hope you will transmit this information to the appropriate people in your Jackson office. Again, thank you for the cooperative attitude - it has been a pleasure to work with you on this project.

Sincerely,

Lew Steinbrecher

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner

LS/ncd

Consumers Power Company

General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • (517) 788-0550

March 12, 1980

Mr Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
PO Box 457
Gaylord, MI 49735

Dear Lew

This will confirm our telephone conversation of March 11, 1980, in which you advised me that you were no longer interested in pursuing the lease of the Sinkhole and Ferron Point areas at our Rockport Generating Plant Site, inasmuch as you could not find a governmental agency willing to assume the lease responsibilities. Thus, the Company withdraws its offer to make this property available.

We have appreciated the opportunity to work with you on this matter and are sorry that it could not be brought to a satisfying conclusion.

Sincerely yours

Bill

W L Reid
Manager of Land and Right of Way

WLR/cjk

cc: JJRochow
JGGoense
RGDahlquist
REAlbrecht
MRPutnam

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

DATE: 18 March 1980

TO: All Involved Participants

FROM: Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner

RE: Rockport Sinkhole Project

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that Consumers Power Company has withdrawn its offer to lease the Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Property for public access. This action was taken upon my recommendation to the utility company that no public agency would step forward to develop the proposed nature trail in the foreseeable future.

Other reasons for this recommendation include 1) lack of local governmental support, 2) concern for loss of tax revenues, 3) uncertainty of public opinion of the proposal, 4) lack of support by several DNR agencies, and, 5) undue criticism of Consumers Power Company

Additionally, my continued involvement in this project is essentially complete because of other activities with the Coastal Management Program, particularly local grants assistance, which must be performed within the limits of the budget.

I greatly appreciate the thoughts, concerns, and interest you have expressed during the development of the Rockport Project. Thank you for your time and efforts.

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

ROCKPORT SINKHOLE STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

11 December 1979
Jason's Gaslight Lounge
Rogers City, Michigan 49779

CALL TO ORDER:

Persons involved in the Rockport Sinkhole and Nature Interpretive Center project convened at 12:20 p.m. to discuss and review recent developments in Rockport Sinkhole project with Mr. Harry Whiteley of the Michigan Natural Resources Commission.

ATTENDANCE:

Bob Allen (area resident), Dennis Boden (Jesse Besser Museum), Dick Dahlquist (Consumers Power Company), Dorris Doutt (Alpena League of Women Voters), O.B. Eustis (Thunder Bay Audubon Society), Jim Lamy (Wilderness and Natural Area Advisory Board), Kathy Pelleran (Senator Irwin's representative), Lew Steinbrecher (NEMCOG), Chuck Volz (DNR Area Forester - Atlanta), David Warner (DNR Coastal Management Program - Lansing), and Harry Whiteley (Natural Resources Commissioner).

OPEN DISCUSSION:

The meeting opened with Dick Dahlquist providing the people in attendance with a brief background of Consumers Power position with regard to negogiating a lease arranagement with some responsible agency or organization for part of the utility's property at Rockport. Mr. Dahlquist emphasized a couple of concerns expressed by Mr. Reid (Consumers Power Company - Jackson office) at the 30 October 1979 meeting, including the one dollar per year provision and that the leasee would be responsible for providing adequate liability insurance coverage. He also read from an inter-departmental memo from the company's environmental research department which addressed itself to the possibility of threatened or endangered plant species in the Ferran Point area of the Rockport property. Discussion followed regarding other considerations which were discussed at the 30 October meeting with O.B. Eustis mentioning that Consumers would prefer major capital improvements such as parking lots, restrooms and the nature interpretive center to be located on the adjoining state land and not the Rockport property. Also discussed was a provision to allow Consumers to terminate the lease should they decide to sell the land sometime in the future, but it was explained that this possibility was not being considered by the company at this time.

Mr. Eustis explained why he though the DNR Parks Division was the most appropriate agency to step forward and take the lead on this project, pointing to that agency's experience and background in the nature interpretive area. It was also brought out that once the Rockport Nature Interpetive center was developed, it would be necessary to station a full-time naturalist at the center. Only the DNR Parks Division would be of sufficient size to financially support such a position. David Warner explained that the Parks Division would require fee simple ownership before committing any major improvements or staff to the center, pointing out that even should these improvements be made on the adjoining state land, the features which would attract the public is on Consumers Power property and should the lease be terminated, for any reason, the usefulness of the center would be severely limited.

Discussion focused on the other possible management agencies, including the Presque Isle County Parks Commission, the Township of Presque Isle and the DNR Forest Management Division. However, because of lack of interest or inability to maintain the center once developed, these agencies would be unlikely participants.

Kathy Pelleran, Senator Irwin's representative for Northeast Michigan, introduced herself and expressed the Senator's interest and willingness to help in implementing this project.

Mr. Whiteley suggested that perhaps NEMCOG could put together a well though-out presentation on the center and the advantages and disadvantages of alternative management agencies for a future Natural Resources Commission meeting. Discussion on this topic expanded into listing the alternative agencies. One idea was to select a local unit of government to improve and operate the center as a 2 or 3 year experiment to see if the project was feasible as a long term development. O.B. Eustis though this was a good idea, but that initial costs for access roads, parking lots, trail development would be too excessive to justify a 2 or 3 year effort at the site. Dennis Boden expressed his concern that Presque Isle Township would have to help by reducing the property tax as the key to this entire project, and that without this, there would be little hope for success. There was a general concurrance among everyone present that once the center was developed, it would be a tremendous asset to the area and would have beneficial impacts at the regional level.

A number of ideas and thoughts were then expressed regarding material for the presentation expressed regarding material for the presentation to the Natural Resources Commission. These ideas included:

1. A funding mechanism to finance the project once the lead management agency signed the lease agreement with Consumers Power
2. Connection of this project with Bell Pines (Besser Natural Area) and Thompson's Harbor projects.
3. DNR Waterways Division lease with Consumers Power on another part of the Rockport property which provides public access and boat launching ramps on Lake Huron (old harbor area).
4. DNR Fisheries Division program which is planting lake trout at the old Rockport Harbor.

David Warner stated that the Michigan Coastal Management Program would be very interested in providing low cost construction funds for trail development in both the sinkhole area and at the Ferran Point coastline.

A few last thoughts were expressed, including another field trip to the Sinkholes and Ferran Point in early spring 1980 and a question about the liability issue. Kathy Pelleran once again expressed Senator Irwin's interest in this project and invited the group to ask for his assistance.

ADJOURN:

The meeting informally adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

THE ROCKPORT SINKHOLES

Minutes of the
INITIAL LEASE ARRANGEMENT MEETING
30 October 1979
Presque Isle Township Hall

CONVENED:

Representatives from Consumers Power Company, the Rockport Nature Center Steering Committee, Presque Isle Township, the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments and other interested individuals gathered together at 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of informally discussing a possible lease arrangement of the Rockport Sinkhole property between Consumers Power Company and some appropriate management agency.

ATTENDANCE:

Michael Barnett (Presque Isle Township Supervisor), Dennis Bodem (Jesse Besser Museum), Dick Dahlquist (Consumers Power Company), Dorris Doutt (League of Women Voters), Randy Eshenroder (Thunder Bay Audubon Society), O.B. Eustis (Thunder Bay Audubon Society), Nick Evers (NEMCOG), Jim Lamy (Wilderness and Natural Area Advisory Board), George Lintz (Chairman, Presque Isle Township Planning Commission), Jim Lyons (Presque Isle Township Planning Commission), Vernie Nethercut (League of Women Voters), John Porter (Chairman, Alpena County Planning Commission), Bill Reid (Consumers Power Company), Robin Spencer (Presque Isle Township Clerk) and Lew Steinbrecher (NEMCOG).

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY'S PRESENTATION:

After calling the meeting to order, Lew Steinbrecher turned the floor over to Consumers Power Company officials. Bill Reid, Manager of the Land and Right of Way Department with Consumers began with some background information, noting that the Rockport property was purchased about eight years ago. He also explained that Rockport was only one of eight sites within Michigan being considered for the Utility's next generating facility and that a decision on which site to locate such a plant could be made as early as next year. Actual construction of the next plant at whichever site is chosen would not begin until 1989 or 1990. Mr. Reid also expressed his company's commitment to preserve environmentally sensitive areas such as the sinkholes and looked forward to working with this group toward that end.

Mr. Reid then made reference to the recently published Rockport Sinkhole Management Study, directing attention to the North Entrance Alternative via State Land (illustrated on page 35 of the document) as the alternative favored

by Consumers Power Company. This alternative was selected as the most appropriate by the Utility for the following reasons: (1) motorized traffic would be directed unto state owned land off a primary road (Grand Lake Road); (2) Off-Road Vehicle activities would be minimized and possibly eliminated around the sinkhole area, and; (3) development would be minimal on Consumers Power property and would affect a small portion, thus preserving the remainder of the Rockport property for the company.

Discussion then focused on the primary elements to be considered under a lease agreement. Those elements included:

1) The primary lease site would be centered around the area of sinkhole concentration, either in a square or triangle shaped parcel of property.

2) The land area to be leased would be of sufficient acreage to adequately accommodate anticipated pedestrian traffic volumes to and from the sinkhole area.

3) The cost of the lease would be $1.00 per year.

4) The Company would be relieved of property taxes either through reimbursement by the lessee or by the leased property being removed from the tax roll.

5) The lessee would assume responsibility and liability and provide adequate insurance of same. (The lessee may either provide its own insurance or reimburse the company for premiums under its policy).

6) Terms would be for an initial 20 year lease with a year to year renewal thereafter.

7) Consumers Power would retain the rights to utilize the leased property for transmission lines should that be necessary sometime in the future.

8) Consumers Power would retain the right to terminate the lease should the property become unsafe for the visiting public or should the environmental preservation of the sinkholes become threatened or destroyed.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Regarding item number 8 above, Mr. Dahlquist mentioned that since the recent publicity about the Rockport Sinkholes and the NEMCOG study, he had received many inquiries about the sinholes and how to get to them. It was pointed out that the more people who visit the sinkholes in their present condition, the better the chances of personal injury and damage to the sinkholes and vegetation.

Discussion then focused upon the term "Exclusionary Zone" in regards to Nuclear Power Reactors and what affect this would have on the leased property. Mr. Reid explained that presently, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires a control area of one-half mile radius around nuclear power plants which the operators of such facilities can evacuate all people within this zone in very short time in the event of an accident. With regard to Rockport and a lease agreement, Consumers Power would retain the right to evacuate people from the leased property should a nuclear plant ever be built at Rockport and should such an emergency ever arise.

Mr. Eustis explained that the nature interpretive concept as proposed by the Jim Bull Alternative needed to be diversified to adequately treat the many natural qualities of the Rockport property and to justify the existence of a full-time naturalist at the center. He pointed out that the sinkholes may not be enough to put the property to its full use for nature study and interpretation, particularly the Ferron Point area on Lake Huron with its qualities. Mr. Reid agreed that trail development to the Ferron Point area was acceptable to Consumers Power, but that in general, the more development on the Rockport property itself (especially major construction activities such as nature center building, parking lots, restrooms, towers, etc.) may interfere with final development plans which the company may decide upon in the future. Mr. Reid suggested that the trail network as illustrated on page 35 of the Rockport Sinkholes Management Study report be extended into the Ferron Point area.

Mr. Eustis explained that he had talked to the DNR Parks Division personnel and they were very interested in this type of proposal for Rockport and would be receptive to further suggestions. Mr. Reid then commented on the current lease negotiation with the DNR Waterways Division for the old Rockport Harbor area as a public access for boaters and fishermen and suggested the two lease agreements be coordinated with one another.

Mr. Barnett asked what role or involvement Presque Isle Township might have in this lease arrangement. Mr. Reid suggested that the Township may wish to become the lessee with advise and assistance from both NEMCOG and the DNR. Mr. Eustis suggested that perhaps the DNR might be the most appropriate governmental agency to become the lessee and that the Parks Division would be interested in such an arrangement.

Discussion then centered on other possible additions to the North Entrance Alternative via State Land including a nature trail connection to the Besser Natural Area to the north along Lake Huron. Mr. Eustis asked Consumers reaction to the proposal to construct a tower on the Rockport property which would offer an excellent view of the shoreline, Middle Island, bogs, sinkholes and the unusual topography of the area. Mr. Reid responded that Consumers might allow such a tower if they were to reserve the right to remove it should it interfere with any development plans the company may have in the future.

Current management practices by the DNR Forest Management Division on the abutting state land included some timber sales this year which resulted in a logging trail down to the Rockport property line. It was thought that additional timber sales and harvest operations would continue on the property next year as well.

Mr. Porter asked what type of campground facility was envisioned for the property. Mr. Eustis explained that a campground was not recommended in the original proposal, but rather a day use facility. It was generally agreed that development should be limited to day use facilities for the nature center area.

Mr. Barnett asked what plans Consumers Power Company had formulated for that part of the Rockport property which lies outside of the boundary for probable power plant development as depicted on the maps in the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study report. Mr. Reid responded that there were no formal plans for that property other than use as a buffer zone and transmission line rights-of-way in the event a power plant should be built there some day.

Discussion then focused on the liability and relief of property taxes elements as being very crucial in the negotiation of a lease agreement. Mr. Reid explained that Consumers Power would reserve the right to terminate the lease after sufficient advance notice should the lessee abuse the agreement and then, only as a last resort if problems with the lease couldn't be resolved.

Mr. Bodem asked for more information regarding Consumers Power's Ludington Pump Storage Facility and the lease agreement at that site. Mr. Reid explained that it was a 20 year lease with the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission (another possibility for the Rockport property) with both day use and campground facilities. While the day use facilities are quite heavily utilized, the 48 campsites are seldom filled, even during the tourist months.

Jim Lyons asked what the future of the Rockport property would be if Consumers Power decided not to build a generating plant there. Mr. Reid said the Company would probably sell the land, giving first option to buy to the lessee. However, if the property were sold to another owner, the lease would be assigned to the new owner and still be valid. Mr. Reid noted, however, that selling the property is not being considered by Consumers Power at this time.

ADJOURN:

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting informally adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to a showing of the Rockport Nature Center slide/tape presentation by Mrs. Doutt of the Alpena League of Women Voters.

It was noted by several people that there was no discussion of the proposed Presque Isle Township Zoning Ordinance and its regulation of Consumers Power property at Rockport.

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

MINUTES

27 June 1979

ROCKPORT SINKHOLE FIELD TRIP AND MEETING

CONVENED:

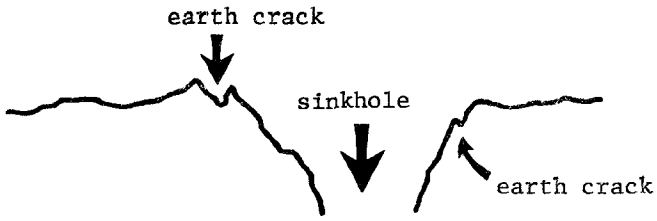
The participants of the Rockport Sinkhole Field Trip convened at 9:40 a.m. in the parking lot of the Presque Isle Township Hall by Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner with NEMCOG. Everyone introduced themselves and their affiliation before leaving for the tour. Randy Eshenroder of the Thunder Bay Audubon Society served as tour guide.

PARTICIPANTS:

Ed Browning (Consumers Power Company), Dick Dahlquist (Consumers Power Company), Gary Dawson (Consumers Power Company), Larry Elliott (WBKB-TV Alpena), Randy Eshenroder (Thunder Bay Audubon Society), O.B. Eustis (Naturalist), Irvin Kuehner (DNR - Geological Survey Division), Vernie Nethercut (Alpena League of Women Voters), Lew Steinbrecher (NEMCOG), Bob Wagner (NEMCOG), Carol Warren (NEMCOG) and Betsy Willis (Alpena League of Women Voters).

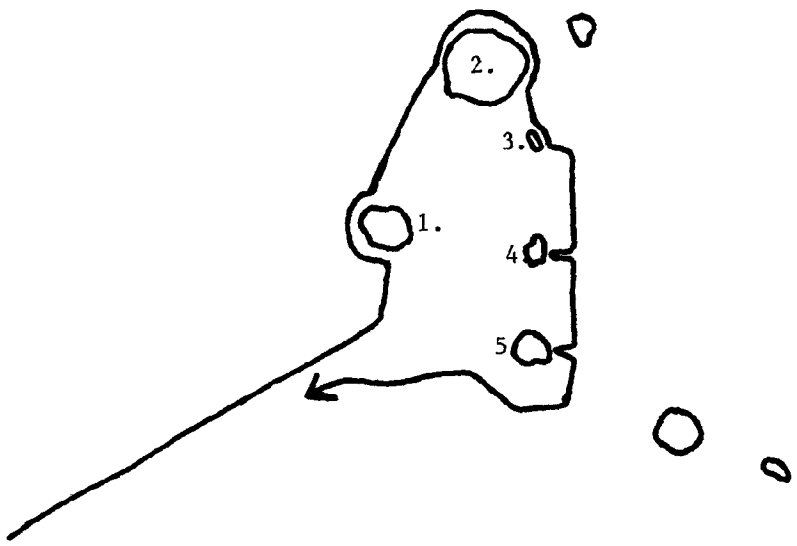
FIELD TRIP:

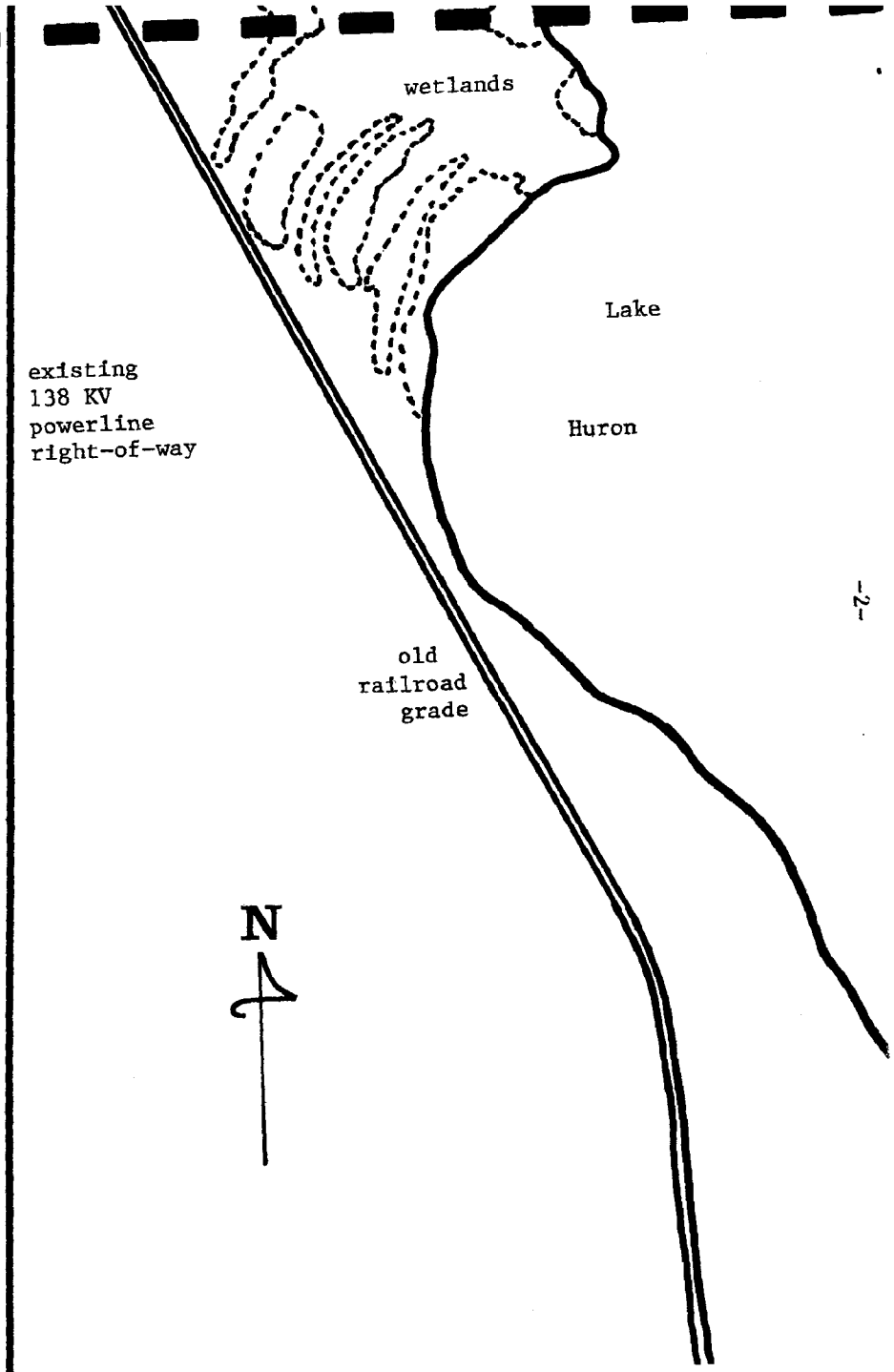
The group entered the Rockport Property from the east and observed five of the eight sinkholes. The accompanying map shows the approximate path of the tour and order of sinkholes observed, with the number 1 being the first sinkhole looked at. Randy Eshenroder pointed out an old gravel pit from the first settlers to the area. The group observed an earth crack at the first sinkhole, typically found at the edge of most sinkholes. The diagram below illustrates the earth crack.




The second sinkhole observed by the group is the largest of the eight located on the Rockport property. There were signs of considerable people pressure and it was pointed out that four-wheel drive vehicles could make it to the edge of this sinkhole. Local residents used the sink as a swimming hole as well. The bottom of the sinkhole was measured at fifty feet below the water level.

ROCKPORT SINKHOLE AREA
JUNE 27, 1979 FIELD TRIP PATH AND
ORDER OF SINKHOLE OBSERVATION



Sinkhole number 3 had the steepest slope and was more characteristic of those sinkholes found further inland, such as those along Leer Road in Long Rapids Township. Randy Eshenroder remembered a small cave at the bottom of this particular sinkhole but wasn't sure because of possible recent rock falls from the walls of the sinkhole.

Sinkholes number 4 and 5 were similar to the first one and both had water in them, as did all five observed. It was pointed out by Gary Dawson that when the water is drained from all the sinkholes, except number 3, (a natural process which occurs in late July, early August) some species of fern and moss appear which are naturally found much further north in Canada. The bottom of the sinkholes is the only place this far south where such flora can be found. Protection of these plants is essential to the total preservation theme for the sinkholes and their environment.

INDOOR MEETING:

The group recessed to the Fireside Inn on Grand Lake at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. Mr. Harry Whiteley (Natural Resources Commission) and Bob Allen (Presque Isle Corporation) joined the group at this time.

Lew Steinbrecher reconvened the group shortly after 1:00 p.m. and briefly highlighted the morning's tour. Irv Kuehner stated that the Rockport Sinkholes were not as typical as those found further inland in terms of the limestone cliffs. However, these sinkholes afford easier access to the bottom without the use of climbing gear.

Discussion was had on the various alternatives which could be implemented. Ideas mentioned ranged from construction of a modern nature center building to improved trail development to no action (do nothing). Consumers Power Company representatives were receptive to the various ideas discussed and stated they would listen and consider any proposal short of selling the land. The idea of a lease agreement similar to the one between Consumers and the DNR Waterways Division which provides public access and launching ramps at the old harbor of Rockport was also discussed. Another thought mentioned was the construction of a nature center on adjoining state land by an appropriate DNR Division with nature trails constructed to the sinkholes. It was suggested by NEMCOG staff that Consumers not be financially responsible for the construction of a nature center building.

Other comments made included such matters as: future power plant development on the property; the "exclusionary zone" or area of control needed for nuclear power plants; the degree of public accessibility to the sinkholes; and financing of the proposals.

Concluding the meeting, Mr. Whiteley posed the question of what should be done next. It was agreed upon that another proposal, short of the sale of any Rockport property, should be drafted and submitted to Consumers Power Company for their consideration and response. O.B. Eustis agreed to developing such a proposal. A response from Consumers could be forthcoming three weeks after receiving any revised proposal. It was also suggested and agreed upon that O.B. Eustis make a presentation of the Rockport Sinkhole to the entire Michigan Natural Resources Commission at their 12 July 1979 meeting to be held in Gaylord.

The meeting was informally adjourned at 2:15 p.m. Informal discussion followed.

## El Cajon Bay Land Acquisition Proposal

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments also sponsored a land acquisition proposal to the Michigan Land Trust Fund created under the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act for the purchase of the El Cajon Bay property on Lake Huron in Alpena County. The property contains approximately 363 acres of land and about five miles of Lake Huron coastline because of the irregular shape of the bay. There are two underwater sinkholes on the bottomlands of the bay as well, one 300 feet in diameter and 75 feet deep and the other 250 feet in diameter and 20 feet deep. There are numerous fresh water springs both in the large sinkhole and on the land which typlifies the Karst topography of the region. There are also several interesting earth cracks located on the property. The fragile wetlands along the shoreline support a variety of plants, including the Pitcher Plant (one of a few insectiverous plants in the State) and the Dwarf Lake Iris (one of only two plants endemic to Michigan) both of which are endangered plant species. There are beautiful wild orchids, such as the Grass Pink and Rose Pegonia, found on the property.

The proposal is supported by a number of state agencies, local organizations, environmental groups and politicians. This support includes the DNR Forest Management Division, the DNR Parks Division, the DNR Geological Survey Division, Michigan Coastal Management Program, Governor Milliken, State Senator Mitch Irwin, State Representative Steve Andrews, the Thunder Bay Audubon Society, Alpena County Planning Commission, The Alpena League of Woman Voters, Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Council, Michigan Interlakes Grotto, the National Speleological Society, Alpena Community College, Alpena Township, Great Lakes Camp and Trail Association, Michigan Natural Areas Council, the Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce, Nature Conservancy and the Jesse Besser Museum.

The proposal is currently still under consideration by the Board as of August 1980. NEMCOG staff gave a coordinated slide presentation representing several of the groups mentioned above to the Board on 5 August 1980. Several documents follow to illustrate various specifics of the efforts and several articles on the project are located in the News Media Coverage section of this report which further augments the projects.

GREAT LAKES CAMP AND TRAIL ASSOC.
P.O. BOX 10144 LANSING, MI. 48901

May 21, 1980

Michigan Land Trust Fund Board
c/o Mr. Ed Hagan
Office of Budget and Federal Aid
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: El Cajon Bay Property and Sinkholes

Dear Mr. Hagan:

The purpose of this letter is to express our support to the Michigan Land Trust Fund Board for the land acquisition proposal entitled "El Cajon Bay Property and Sinkholes".

The Great Lakes Camp and Trail Association is an outings organization whose purpose is to provide opportunities for its members to discover the Great Lakes region, its natural and historical resources, and its environmental diversity. This is accomplished through year around recreational outings of an educational and challenging nature, conducted on foot or by canoe, in all parts of the region.

During the course of previous outings in northeast lower Michigan, our group has hiked and canoed in the subject property, primarily to visit and interpret the significant and unique geological phenomena - earth cracks and a large underwater sinkhole - contained within its boundaries. Further attractions of the area are its undisturbed natural appearance, its wetland biotic community including an extensive population of insectivorous pitcher plants, and the possible existence of white cave fish in the sinkhole. This combination of features provides the type of experience which our group seeks, both for recreational and educational purposes.

While on our most recent outing to the site on May 17 this year, we noticed survey lines cut through the trees to subdivide the property. We feel that if action to preserve the area is not taken in 1980, the citizens of Michigan will lose yet another precious and outstanding segment of Great Lakes shoreline and coastal wetland. This would be particularly disturbing in the "Year of the Coast", also a year when wetlands protection was finally enacted into law.

It is our desire to see this area preserved in its existing natural condition for future outings and future members of our organization. By this letter, we support public acquisition of the El Cajon Bay Property and Sinkholes through the provisions of the Michigan Recreational Land Trust Fund Act.

Sincerely, on behalf of our members,

Lawrence L. Lemanski

Lawrence L. Lemanski

# MICHIGAN NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

May 22, 1980

Mr. Edward Hagan
Michigan Land Trust Fund Board
Office of Budget and Financial Aid
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909

Additional Copy Sent To:
Senator Mitch Irwin
765 Senate Office Building
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Hagan:

At the May 19, 1980, meeting of the Michigan Natural Areas Council a resolution was adopted to once again endorse and support the proposal by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments for the acquisition of the El Cajon Bay Property and Sinkholes, under the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act.

The MNAC is concerned with the locating, studying, and preservation of choice natural areas in Michigan. Its efforts and accomplishments in this are well known to state, local, and private agencies. While we have not ourselves conducted a study of the El Cajon property, we have been informed by several persons about the natural area values of the site, including the coastal wetlands, and the especially unique karst landforms and artesian springs.

The proposal from NEMCOG identifies the area as a rare, fragile, and scenic resource. Mr. Lew Steinbrecher's supporting memorandum of March 19, 1980, states that "after public acquisition, the possible development of a nature trail and boardwalk would provide a recreational and scenic assest unlike any other in Northeast Michigan, and perhaps in the entire state". The MNAC would urge that, as soon as the property has been purchased, a management plan be developed that will protect to the maximum possible extent the natural features of the area.

The MNAC would like to reiterate its offer to assist in the development of such a plan by cooperating in the necessary botanical, zoological, geological, and ecological reconnaissance of the site.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Pippen, Chairperson

Biology Department
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

RWP/amp

cc Lew Steinbrecher

*The Michigan Natural Areas Council has as its goal the preservation of areas of outstanding scenic beauty or scientific value which are representative of the full variety of Michigan's natural habitats.*

# Alpena Community College

666 Johnson Street Alpena, Michigan 49707 Telephone: (517) 356-9021


July 3, 1980

Thomas Nichols - Attorney
Alpena, Michigan

Dear Mr. Nichols,

In regard to your proprosal that a report be done on the general nature, condition and potential value of the property listed in the 1970 Land Plat Book as the John Harning property (which would be all but the NorthWest 40 of section 15, Town 31 North, Range 9 East in Alpena Township of Alpena County.) It is my understanding that you and others would like to see this property in public ownership.

I have visited this property on several occasions in my ramblings and field trips as an instructor of botany, ecology, and conservation courses at Alpena Community College and agree that there is much that is unique, beautiful and worthy of preservation on this property and shoreline along Lake Huron. Being at the base of North Point, the property is cooled by the Lake and supports communities of plantlife that are becoming increasingly rare. This property also has numerous areas of limestone outcropping which also adds to the uniqueness of the plant life there. The presence of a large sinkhole, stream, and small harbor give it great potential value as a potential location for a research station at some future time.

As I mentioned to you, I am very busy now, but upon my return from Wyoming on August 6, I shall be able to begin a much more

Alpena Community College

666 Johnson Street Alpena, Michigan 49707 Telephone (517) 356-9021



thorough study of the property in question. As a biologist and instructor of some 15 years experience and wandering over lands of NorthEastern Michigan I am vitally interested in efforts to preserve what can be obtained of the last blocks of acreage on the shores of the Great Lakes. I have watched development proceed on these shorelands at a frightening pace and believe that these areas, with their unique biological communities, will be of great value and much appreciated in the future.

Respectfully,

Russ Garlitz

Russ Garlitz
Instructor - Alpena Community College
Dept. of Natural Science

## Maritime Preservation Grants Program

Staff of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments inquired about, received and distributed information regarding the Maritime Preservation Grant Program, administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This is a private, non-profit organization which works through a partnership involving a federal governmental agency, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

No known grants were applied for under this program during the year. Familiarity of the program may result in submission of a grant application next year to enhance the maritime history of Lake Huron coastal waters and lands.

## Island Management Study

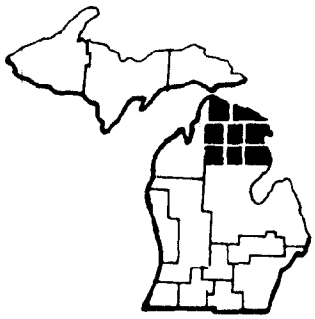
NEMCOG staff provided assistance and informative material to planners with Johnson and Anderson, a private consulting firm which was under contract with the Michigan Coastal Management Program to develop a Great Lakes Island Management Study. This assistance included all pertinent information on file with NEMCOG's Areas of Particular Concern for each island nominated an an APC.

## Thunder Bay Underwater Park

With the passage of Public Act 184 of 1980, being signed into law by Governor Milliken on July 2, 1980, the State of Michigan has authority to preserve and protect the bottomlands of the Great Lakes, including all abandoned property. Through the DNR Law Enforcement Division and the Michigan Department of State, certain bottomlands which display significant historical, recreational, geological and other values, can be designated as State Underwater Preserves. To this end, the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments sponsored a public meeting to discuss the possibility of designating the bottomlands of the Thunder Bay area of Lake Huron in Alpena County as such a preserve. There is much local support for the concept which has been talked about in the Alpena area since 1975 when an MSU Parks and Recreation Resources Department conducted a study to evaluate the potential of such a park for Thunder Bay, including the underwater sinkholes in El Cajon Bay.

Attemps are presently underway to convince state agencies to designate this area as an underwater preserve under the authority of P.A. 184 of 1980.

# NEMCOG



Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

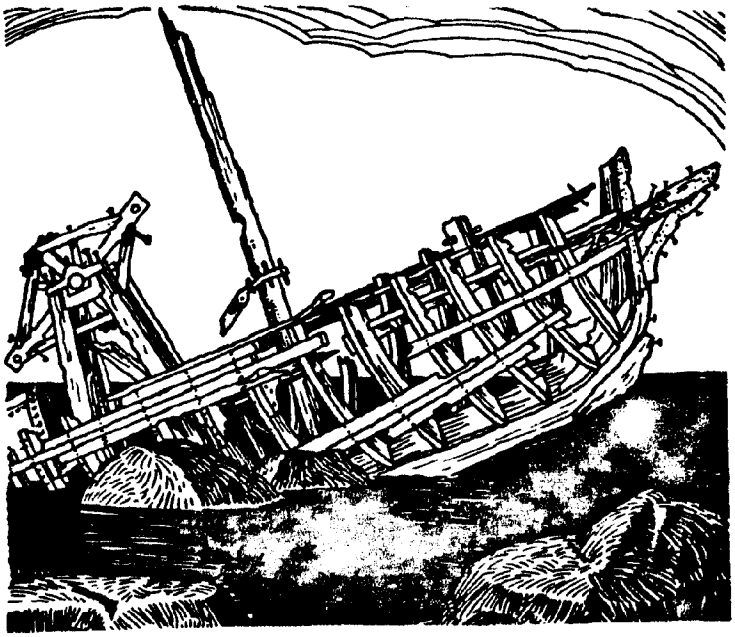
**Date:** Wednesday, 27 August 1980

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** Council Chambers, City Hall
Alpena, Michigan

**Purpose:** To discuss the possibility of designating the Thunder Bay in Lake Huron as an underwater preserve.

**Additional Information:** The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments is sponsoring this public meeting to receive local input regarding the potential of the Thunder Bay bottom lands as an underwater park. Bruce Andrews of the DNR Law Enforcement Division will be present to explain P.A. 184 of 1980. This recently enacted State Law is intended to protect the historical and recreational values of Great Lakes bottom lands and to designate and regulate underwater perserves. John Schwartz, the Marine Agent for Northeast Michigan with the Sea Grant Program, will present a slide program on an MSU Parks and Recreation Resources study of the Thunder Bay area bottom lands. Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG Coastal Planner, will serve as moderator. The meeting is being promoted as a "Year of the Coast - 1980" event.



SERVICE AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTIES OF:

ALCONA · ALPENA · CHEBOYGAN · CRAWFORD · MONTMORENCY · OSCODA · OTSEGO · PRESQUE ISLE

"Environmental Areas" Program

NEMCOG staff assisted DNR personnel from the Shorelands Section of the Land Resource Programs Division with information and local contacts regarding specific parcels of land being considered for designation as "environmental areas" under authority of Michigan's Shoreland Protection and Management Act (P.A. 245 of 1970). Most of this assistance was in the form of telephone conversations with DNR staff in Lansing but did entail a couple of field trips and/or local meetings during the designation process of the program.

League of Women Voters

NEMCOG staff assisted the Alpena League and the Michigan State League of Women Voters on two "Year of the Coast-1980" activities. Several slides depicting various coastal related problems and opportunities along the Lake Huron shore of Northeast Michigan were given to the Alpena League to be included in a slide/tape presentation being prepared at the state level. Additionally, maps depicting specific geographical locations of areas with geologic, historic or environmental interest, with erosion or flooding problems, or issues related to development pressure in sensitive areas and conflicts of use on the lake shore. A narrative of the site describing the geographical features, accessibility to the public and problems or opportunities associated with the parcel was also developed and submitted to the State League along the maps.

Whitefish Bay - Crow Realty

NEMCOG staff assisted Crow Realty in Alpena with the completion of a Land Acquisition proposal to the Michigan Land Trust Fund for property in Whitefish Bay, a smaller bay within Thunder Bay. Much of the property had been designated as "Environmental Area" under authority of the Michigan Shorelands Protection and Management Act. The Proposal was submitted to the Michigan Land Trust Fund Board but was removed from further consideration early in the reivew process for lack of a public agency to own and manage the property.

## A-95 Clearinghouse and Natural Resources Advisory Committee

NEMCOG staff reviewed and commented on a number of proposed projects located within the coastal zone of Northeast Michigan in terms of its consistency with the region's coastal management program.

Staff also maintain its support to NEMCOG's Natural Resources Advisory Committee, the agency's review board for natural resource matters. The committee reviewed permit applications, pending state legislation, areas of Particular Concern, the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study, the El Cajon Bay land acquisition proposal and other pertinent matters relating to the region's and state's coastal management program.

## Boy Scout "Year of the Coast" Merit Badges

NEMCOG staff took the initiative to contact local scoutmasters in and near the coastal communities of Northeast Michigan to explain and discuss the earning of "Michigan Year of the Coast-1980" merit badges for boy scouts in their troops. NEMCOG is currently in the process of sponsoring local projects and activities along the Lake Huron coastline without the aid of coastal program funding. The actual field activities are being scheduled for October 1980, however. Such events will include clean-ups of local and state parks, natural, historic and geological interpretation of interesting coastal properties and hiking and camping along the Lake Huron shore.

## Review of Permit Applications

NEMCOG staff did review and comment upon several permit applications of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act of 1977. One such permit application was the filling in of a coastal wetland in Presque Isle County for purposes of mosquito control and residential development. The documents on the following pages make reference to the various concerns expressed regarding this activity. As a result, the permit application was denied by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or withdrawn by the applicant.

Sent copy of resolution on 12/18/79

# NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

5 December 1979

Colonel Robert Vermillion
District Engineer
Detroit District
Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1027
Detroit, Michigan 48231

Dear Colonel Vermillion:

After review of the public notice of proposed fill in of a wetland adjacent to Lake Huron near Grace, Michigan *(Process No. 791192C/79-5-50)*, including inquiries to local contacts and a site inspection to the property of the proposed fill activity, this agency *(Northeast Michigan Council of Governments)* wishes to make the following comments:

a. Spens Construction Incorporated has discussed with the Presque Isle County Zoning Administrator, a proposal to alter the course of the "drainage ditch" as referred to in the notice. This so called "drainage ditch" is a natural stream which runs through a low-lying cedar swamp area before entering a pond *(proposed fill area #791192C)* and then continues to Lake Huron. It appears that Spens Construction will soon make application to Presque Isle County for a 347 *(Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control)* permit, but has failed to mention this proposed activity in its application to your office.

b. Filling of a coastal wetland is in conflict with the goals and objectives of the Northeast Michigan's Coastal Management Program. The Michigan Coastal Management Program, Land Resource Programs Division, Department of Natural Resources, should be contacted regarding this permit application for a determination as to whether or not this proposed activity is inconsistent with the federally approved Coastal Program.

c. The Clean Water Plan for Northeast Michigan recognizes that certain activities, such as unplanned inland lake development or destruction of wetlands, can have detrimental effects on water quality. This project, as presently proposed, would undermine local and regional efforts to restore and maintain water quality in Northeast Michigan. Therefore, this project is inconsistent with Northeast Michigan's certified Clean Water Plan.

d. While the Presque Isle County Planning Commission has not specifically objected to this permit application to date, the county's recently adopted comprehensive plan states the following on page 170:

> *"Issue: Presque Isle County contains a number of natural and man-made amenities. Many of these amenities are related to the county's inland lake resources or Lake Huron shoreline, the same areas which have been most prone to development pressures.*
> *Goal: To insure that population growth does not infringe on the quality or availability of environmental assets of the county.*
> *Objective: Identify the unique natural and man-made resources of the county and implement programs to protect them from destruction or from encroachment by incompatible land uses."*

It appears to this agency that the proposed projects would also be in conflict with adopted county policy.

e. There is a possibility that there may be endangered or threatened plant species located on the property as the Dwarf Lake Iris and the Pitcher Plant have been found in this vicinity. Contact should be made with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division for further information and determination.

f. The proposed work site is not a wooded marsh *(swamp)*, but rather an open pond. A cedar swamp does surround the proposed fill area, however.

After a careful review of this proposed project, we would not agree that it would be in the public interest to fill in this coastal wetland. We request that a public hearing be held in Rogers City to consider this application for the following reasons:

1. To clearly determine local public policy regarding the project.

2. To determine the need of this project for the people of Presque Isle County.

3. To determine if any known endangered plant species or their habitat are located on the property.

4. To determine if an environmental impact study should be required prior to permit approval.

5. To clarify the entire scope of work to be completed by Spens Construction.

6. To determine if there already exists sufficient building sites on more suitable soils in this area of Presque Isle County to accommodate expected growth of population and expected housing demands.

7. To clarify if the proposed fill area is wooded marsh *(swamp)* or open pond.

8. To provide an opportunity for the citizens of Presque Isle County to express their concerns as well as an opportunity for Spens Construction to explain the need for the additional building sites.

This agency is not convinced of the justification of this project when only two or three lots will be created with so many undeveloped lots already located nearby.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this permit application, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lew Steinbrecher

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner, NEMCOG

Bob Wagner

Bob Wagner
Water Quality Specialist, NEMCOG

LS:BW/q

*cc: Presque Isle County Planning Commission*
*Presque Isle County Zoning Commission*
*Dave Warner, DNR Coastal Program*
*Claudia Kerbawy, DNR Water Quality Division*
*Wayne Elson, EPA*
*Wayne Schmidt, MUCC*

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

THE NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS'

NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# RESOLUTION

*concerning*

## REGIONAL REVIEW OF THE SURF PARK PLAT - DAKOTA LANE AREA OF PARTICULAR CONCERN NOMINATION

WHEREAS, The Natural Resources Advisory Committee is a duly organized committee of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments charged with the responsibility of reviewing Areas of Particular Concern (APC's) under Michigan's Coastal Management Program as it relates to the Lake Huron coastline of Northeast Michigan, and;

WHEREAS, This committee has reviewed the Surf Park Plat - Dakota Lane Area of Particular Concern nomination and the public notice of proposed filling in of a coastal wetland on this property as a result of permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and;

WHEREAS, After careful review, discussions and staff recommendations of this APC nomination and public notice of permit application, the Natural Resources Advisory Committee finds this proposed land use activity to be in conflict with the goals and objectives of the region's coastal management planning efforts and in conflict with the Clean Water Plan for Northeast Michigan as certified by the Governor of the State of Michigan as well as other considerations which have not been adequately detailed in the public notice of the permit application;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Natural Resources Advisory Committee does hereby place regional endorsement upon this APC nomination and assign high regional priority to same, and request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to deny this permit application.

*Moved by* George Lintz, *supported by* C. Merritt Clark *to adopt the above resolution at the regular meeting of the NEMCOG Natural Resources Advisory Committee held on December 12, 1979 and passed by a vote of:*

*Ayes* All

*Nays* None

*attested by* Earl Huff

*Earl Huff, Vice Chairman*
*Presiding over the meeting*

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments

P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

18 January 1980

Mr. William H. Davy, Jr.
General Regulatory Branch
Detroit District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Box 1027
Detroit, Michigan 48231

RE: Application No. 791192C
By: Spens Construction, Inc.
Located: Grace, Michigan

Dear Mr. Davy:

With regard to the above referenced application, I have recently been contacted by Delmer Porter, representing Spens Construction, Inc., in an attempt to resolve the objections outlined in my 5 December 1979 letter to your office. After my discussion with Mr. Porter and another visit to the property proposed for fill, I wish to make the following observations and comments:

a. It appears that information which was supplied in the permit application was not made available on the public notice. I make specific reference to the proposed alterations of the drainage ditch which was mentioned in the permit application, but not made available in the 26 November 1979 Public Notice. Spens Construction, as I understand, has decided not to alter the flow of this stream and I will, therefore, remove my objection to this proposal.

b. It is apparent that there is no local support or commitment for established county policy as outlined in the Presque Isle County Comprehensive Plan. Without such support from the commission which adopted that policy, I will withdraw my concern that the proposed activity is in conflict of that local policy.

c. My meeting with Mr. Porter did not resolve the matter as to the existence of any endangered or threatened plant species in the proposed fill area. However, this is a relatively minor concern from a water quality perspective. I would think a final determination could be made by your office upon review of the DNR Wildlife Division.

d. It is my understanding that the proposed fill area is a burrowed pit which was excavated by the Michigan Highway Department in the late 1930's for stabilizing material when U.S. 23 was improved. While I can not condone the filling in of a coastal wetland, the fact that this proposed fill area was previously disturbed by man's activity lessens my objection to the permit application.

e. The concept of filling in wetlands is contradictory of the goals of NEMCOG's Clean Water and Coastal Management Programs as established by the regional advisory committee and NEMCOG's governing board. As staff to this Council, it is my responsibility to express this concern regardless of the size of the proposed area to be filled.

f. There are a number of lots which are affected by this proposal. However, this land was platted at a time when extremely small lots were accepted. As I now understand, there are only three owners comprising 14 of these small lots, and therefore only three building sites. This appears to be a much more reasonable proposal.

Based upon my above comments, I will also withdraw my request for a public hearing of this permit application. There is no evidence to indicate that Spens Construction, Inc., has attempted to conceal any information regarding this proposal.

Thank you for your suggestion to have the applicant contact me for discussion and detailed explanation of this permit applicant. I hope my comments are taken into consideration when final review and decision is made on this application.

Sincerely,

Lew Steinbrecher

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner, NEMCOG

LS/jm

cc: Delmer Porter, Spens Construction, Inc.
David Warner, DNR Coastal Program

## Coordination with Economic Planning

Under the authority of Section 307 (d) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-583), no Federal agency can approve assistance to a State or local government project that are inconsistent with a State's coastal management program. Since Michigan's program has been approved by the Federal government, NEMCOG economic development program, funded through the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, must be consistent with it. NEMCOG's coastal planner was also involved in the preparation of the District's Overall Economic Development Program. This involvement ensured that the interests and concerns of the coastal program were incorporated into the economic planning process. This involvement also resulted in a stronger, more comprehensive economic development program for the region because of the role which coastal resources and industries play in the economy of Northeast Michigan. A copy of the District's Overall Economic Development Program for 1980 has been submitted to the DNR Coastal Program Unit under separate cover.

## Request for Proposals

NEMCOG staff supplied the Michigan Coastal Management Program with names and addresses of local officials and regional contacts eligible to receive the program's Request for Proposal brochure. This brochure is used to complete and submit coastal projects to the Department of Natural Resources for funding consideration.

NEMCOG staff also reviewed the contents of the brochure and made certain recommendations to the Department, aimed at clarifying or strengthening certain areas of the grant application process. The letter which was submitted to the Michigan Coastal Management Program appears on the next two pages.

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

14, November, 1979

Mr. Chris Shafer, In Charge
Michigan Coastal Management Program
Land Resource Programs Division
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Chris:

After reviewing last year's program request for proposal brochure, I would like to make the following comments:

1. page 1; Section B; Location - I would attempt to place more emphasis on the definition of the landward boundary. Most local projects are oriented toward land projects while water projects are more often state sponsored agencies. The lakeward boundary would probably be of little interest to local units; yet I realize the RFP will be used by some agencies which are very much interested in the lakeward boundary.

2. page 2; Section B; Eligible Applicants - Shouldn't quasi-governmental agencies such as school districts, historical societies and the like be mentioned?

3. page 2; Section C; Project Location - A map of the project area is very useful and usually included with the formal proposal upon the request of your office. Perhaps this should also be mentioned.

4. page 2; Section C; Project Description - This is a very important section and perhaps the most reviewed part of the proposal by your staff. Perhaps this should be emphasized and a more detailed narrative describing this section written.

5. page 3; Section C; Other Consideration - Local resolutions of support for the proposal are required by your office, aren't they? The word should might be changed to must or the statement itself given more emphasis. An example resolution with appropriate wording may be very useful.

6. page 3; Section C; Other Considerations - Are all projects reviewed by your staff in terms of implementing APC management recommendation? Perhaps the brochure could explain why APC documentation is considered. Additionally, I suggested at the workshop that those regional planning commission which send RFP's out should also include a list of the APC's within the local jurisdiction along with the mailing. This may help stimulate ideas for projects.

7. General Comments: Include an example proposal for a low-cost construction project in the RFP brochure.

I hope you find these comments useful when preparing this year's RFP brochure and they are intended to be constructive.

Sincerely,

Lew

Lew Steinbrecher
Coastal Planner

LS/jm

# NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE

## SUMMARY OF TV/RADIO COVERAGE

11/27 WHSB-FM Radio, Alpena - Ran story on the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study conducted by NEMCOG.

12/26 WWTV Cadillac - TV news announced upcoming Coastal grant workshops.

12/27 WWRM-Radio, Gaylord - Announced coastal grant workshops on news.

12/28 WWRM-Radio, Gaylord - NEMCOG Coastal Planner interviewed on Coastal Program and upcoming grant workshops to be aired on a 15 minute radio program called Horizons on 12/30/80 at 5:30 p.m. Also aired on WWRM's auxillary station in Petoskey.

12/28 WHSB-Radio, Alpena - Ran news release on daily newscast and announced upcoming workshop in Alpena.

12/29 WATZ-Radio, Alpena - Newscast announced upcoming coastal grant workshops.

12/29 WWRM-Radio, Gaylord - Ran story in newscast on upcoming workshops.

12/30 WWRM-Radio, Gaylord - 15 minute interview with NEMCOG Coastal Planner on program called Horizons. Discussed Michigan's Coastal Management Program and announced upcoming workshops.

12/31 WWRM-Radio, Gaylord - News ran same story as 12/29 broadcast and announced upcoming workshops.

1/3 WHSB-Radio, Alpena - Daily newscast ran story on Alpena County Planning Commission and their action on a resolution supporting the NEMCOG Rockport Sinkhole Management Study and its efforts to develop a nature interpretive trail on the Rockport property.

1/11 WHSB-Radio, Alpena - Newscast reported action by Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission in the passage of a resolution supporting the nature trail concept at Rockport. The story included an interview with NEMCOG Coastal Planner about the Rockport Sinkhole Project and the possibility of a Coastal Program grant to develop the Joe LaMarre Park.

1/11 WBKB-TV, Alpena - Ran story on 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscast about the Coastal grant workshop for local officials held in Alpena. The news story included filmed interviews with NEMCOG Coastal Planner and State DNR Coastal Program staff.

1/15 WHSB-Radio, Alpena - Newscast reported on resolution passed by NEMCOG Full Council supporting the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail project and recommendation that the Michigan DNR become the lead management agency.

1/23 WBKB-TV, Alpena - The 11:00 o'clock newscast reported on action taken by the Alpena County Board of Commissioners in support of the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail project as developed by NEMCOG and recommended the Michigan DNR as the lead management agency in the project.

1/24 WHSB Radio, Alpena - Morning news ran story on action by Alpena County Board of Commissioners supporting the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail Project.

1/26 WHAK Radio, Rogers City - Newscast ran story on the NEMCOG presentation of the Rockport Sinkhole project and the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners decision not to support the concept of a nature trail.

2/11 WHSB Radio, Alpena and WHAK Radio, Rogers City - Both stations announced pre-application deadline of 15 February 1980 for submitting intent to apply postcards for the Michian Coastal Management Program grant process.

3/6 WHSB Radio, Alpena - Morning newscasts ran story on the shelving of the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail Project from a status report given by NEMCOG's Coastal Planner to the Alpena County Planning Commission the night before. Project shelved for lack of local and state agency support.

8/13 WBKB-TV, Alpena - The 6:00 and 11:00 newscasts carried a story of the El Cajon Bay sinkholes and property and the proposal before the Michigan Land Trust Fund to have the State purchase the property. Story included an interview with Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG Coastal Planner and aerial slides of the property.

8/13 WWRM Radio, Gaylord - Announced the 27 August meeting regarding the Thunder Bay bottomlands and the possibility of an underwater park because of the many shipwrecks in the area.

8/14 WHSB Radio, Alpena and WATZ Radio, Alpena - Both radio stations carried report on the upcoming meeting regarding possibility of designating Thunder Bay bottomlands as an underwater preserve to better protect and preserve its historic and recreational values.

8/25 WWRM Radio, Gaylord - Ran story on upcoming public meeting in Alpena regarding possible designation of Thunder Bay bottomlands as an underwater preserve. Newscast included interview with NEMCOG coastal planner.

8/27 WBKB-TV, Alpena - The 6:00 and 11:00 newscasts carried story on the public meeting in Alpena regarding designation of Thunder Bay as a possible underwater preserve. Story included TV interview with NEMCOG coastal planner.

ALCONA COUNTY REVIEW
August 28, 1980

# Coastal improvement grants

Five Northeast Michigan communities on Lake Huron will receive grant monies through Michigan's Coastal Management Program to enhance coastal resources and recreational opportunities. According to Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), the grant awards total $118,000. This total is second only to the Detroit metropolitan area which received just a few thousand more and reflects the quality of the local projects proposed by the various communities in the region, Steinbrecher added.

Those communities which will receive funds beginning October 1, 1980 are:

1. The Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission, $21,000 for low-cost construction activities, including a new stairway and dock area at the LaMarre Park along the Thunder Bay River in Alpena.

2. Harrisville Harbor Commission, $22,000 for needed landscaping and other onshore improvements at the Harrisville Harbor of Refuge.

3. Alcona County Planning Commission, $15,000 to conduct a Great Lakes sports fisheries economic impact study to determine the economic, social and physical impacts that sports fishing has on coastal communities in that County.

4. City of Rogers City, $30,000 to implement the City's Coastal Zone Park System Plan through various low-cost construction activities such as trail development at public shorefront parks in the city.

Cheboygan Daily Tribune

August 27, 1980

# Dam improvement groups meet

City, county, state, and federal authorities will get together Tuesday, September 2 at the County Building in Cheboygan at a meeting called to coordinate a movement for improvements at the Cheboygan river dam.

This is a prime fishing area, but the steep banks make fishing difficult and dangerous, and the banks are eroding.

The eight-county Huron Pines Resource, Conservation, and Development district of the Soil Conservation Service has made improvements to the site its number one project.

Michigan has four R,C, and D districts. The Cheboygan site is one of their top projects for the entire state.

The meeting will be held in the Commissioners Room of the County Building at 7:30. Among those expected are representatives of the Department of Natural Resources, Huron Pines Coordinator Carl Stamm, the County Planning Commission, zoning administrator, the Cheboygan city manager and councilmen, and the Cheboygan County Soil Conservation District board.

The various groups will tell what they would like to have included in the project. Proposals have been made for sloping the banks, a fishermen's wharf, stairway, parking area, restrooms, and seeding.

The project has been in the limelight for years, and has been tentatively scheduled at various times, held back by lack of funds.

"The proposal was signed in 1976, and it has been worked on since the 60's", said Tom Fisher, who is in charge of the Cheboygan County office of the Soil Conservation District.

"By having the DNR present at our meeting, we can ask him what is holding it up and when the project can start", Mr. Fisher said.

The project would be funded 75 percent federal and 25 percent local.

Because of the priority given by R, C, and D, the federal funding is being counted on. The main difficulty seen is securing state funding.

Mr. Fisher said he is hopeful that the project can be started in 1981.

THE ALPENA NEWS
August 23, 1980

## PUBLIC HEARING SET WEDNESDAY

# Propose Thunder Bay as underwater preserve

The Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, has scheduled a public meeting in Alpena Wednesday to discuss the possibility of designating Thunder Bay in Lake Huron as an underwater preserve.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the city hall council chambers.

Under a new law, Public Act 184 of 1980, the DNR is required to establish Great Lakes' bottomland preserves that have historical or recreational value. Prior to passage of the act, historical artifacts resting on Great Lakes' bottomlands were not protected by statute law. Act 184 now requires divers to obtain permits and provides for a misdemeanor penalty for salvaging abandoned property without a permit.

A 1975 study of Thunder Bay by Michigan State University verified 26 shipwrecks. According to historical research, an additional 57 wrecks may also rest in the bay.

Bruce Andrews of the DNR's Law Division in Lansing is coordinating designation of underwater preserves in Michigan. He says designation of Thunder Bay would hot hinder sport diving in any way.

"Recreational diving is not affected by designation," he emphasizes. "Divers could still dive in the bay, but they would not be allowed to bring anything up to the surface without a permit."

Intent of the legislation is simply to give the State a chance to review any artifacts recovered by divers for historical value, Andrews explains.

A meeting held last month in Munising on designation of Munising Bay in Lake Superior drew 40 persons. "As a result of that meeting the local Chamber of Commerce and area citizens have formed a committee to support designation of the bay as an underwater preserve," he says.

Since that meeting divers in the bay found an old ship's anchor and asked the DNR for permission to bring it to shore.

"We gave them permission, divers in the area recovered it, and plans are now underway for the State to place the anchor with Munising's Chamber of Commerce for long-term loan for display," Andrews says. "Munising area divers and local officials have given us excellent cooperation in beginning the designation process for the bay and with this most recent recovery.

"Once an area is officially selected for designation, another public meeting will be held for local citizens to provide further comment and discussion on the designation plan," he adds.

Andrews, who chairs the DNR's Underwater Salvage Committee, says the Committee hopes to have at least two areas in the state ready for designation by the state's Natural Resources Commission in October.

Besides Munising Bay and Thunder Bay, nine other areas in the state have been suggested for possible designation. They are: Whitefish Bay near Sault Ste. Marie, Keweenaw Point near Copper Harbor, the Mackinac Straits, the Beaver Island area, the Manitou Island area, Pt. Aux Barques near Port Austin, the Port Sanilac area, the St. Joseph area, and the Muskegon area.

Under the act, the DNR may designate up to five percent of the Great Lakes as underwater preserves.

The DNR's Underwater Salvage Committee includes members from the department's Parks Division, Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Secretary of State's History Division, the MSU Parks and Recreation Department, and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
August 23, 1980

# Mill Creek dam building begins

Work is commencing on construction of a dam across Mill Creek in the new 500 acre historical park south of Mackinaw City.

The Darrow company cleared out the stream bed Thursday, scooping a huge amount of material out of the creek and heaping it on shore.

The Mackinac Island Park Commission will send workers to build the dam, Tom Ford, field supervisor, said the work will probably take about four weeks.

He said the dam will be 8 feet high. It is being built on site of the previous dam built about 200 years ago, which supplied water power for a grist mill at a little settlement there. The grist mill will be constructed later as part of the plans to develop the park.

A $56,500 grant from the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission made it possible to start the park project this year. The Mackinac Island State Park Commission early this year said that hopefully the park could be fully operational by 1982.

This year as part of the project a parking area has been cleared out, an observation lookout point cleared off, selective tree cutting done to improve viewing, and a new entrance road built from US 23 to the Old Mackinac Road which leads to the dam site.

An information center and Indian Village are part of the plans.

There is a possibility that work may be suspended next year unless additional grant aid is received.

The original dam was built of log and board cribs. The new dam will be of cement, but covered with earth.

A sign at the site says that the project is funded by the Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and Michigan Coastal Management Program.

The new entrance road cannot be used yet. As explained to the TRIBUNE, permission has not been received yet from the railroad to cross the tracks. Rustic gates have been across the road, but are locked.

Archaeology has continued on the site this summer. Archaeologists have discovered location of a blacksmith shop and houses that were situated there when the grist mill was in operation, providing lumber and flour for the town of Mackinac Island.

The mill was abandoned about 1839, and in time all traces of the settlement disappeared until the location was discovered by Ellis Olson.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
August 22, 1980

# Cheboygan gets grant for marshland walkway

Word was received today that the city of Cheboygan has been granted $30,000 through Michigan's Coastal Management program to construct an interpretive boardwalk through the marsh bordering the Gordon Turner park.

The boardwalk is to advance the public's understanding of Great Lakes coastal setlands and their value. Many kinds of wildlife have their home in the marsh. The marsh also is a natural filter and important to the environment.

Mayor Ellis N. Olson said he understands that construction will start in the Fall.

The city has also applied to the Department of Natural Resources for a grant to extend the park southerly to the wastewater treatment plant. Mayor Olson said word on the application is expected after Labor Day.

A pavillion with restrooms would be constructed in the expansion area. Picnic facilities would be provided, and athletic facilities developed. The Soccer Association has asked to build two soccer fields there.

Cheboygan was one of five Northeast Michigan communiities on Lake Huron to be allocated grants through the Coastal Management program at this time.

According to Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), the grant awards total $118,000. This total is second only to the Detroit metropolitan area which received just a few thousand more and reflects the quality of the local projects proposed by the various communities in the region, Steinbrecher added.

Other communities which will receive funds beginning October 1, 1980 are:

1) The Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission - $21,000 for low-cost construction activities, including a new stairway and dock area at the LaMarre Park along the Thunder Bay River in Alpena.

2) Harrisville Harbor Commission - $22,000 for needed landscaping and other onshore improvements at the Harrisville Harbor of Refuge.

3) Alcona County Planning Commission - $15,000 to conduct a Great Lakes sports fisheries economic impact study to determine the economic, social and physical impacts that sports fishing has on coastal communities in that County.

4) City of Rogers City - $30,000 to implement the City's Coastal Zone Park System Plan through various low-cost construction activities such as trail development at public shorefront parks in the city.

In addition to these local projects, the Michigan Coastal Program also awarded a small grant to the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments. The grant will be used by the agency to help local communities develop grant proposals for next year, provided technical assistance for waterfront planning and zoning, sponsor various meeting on coastal issues and respond to other requests dealing with Lake Huron shoreline matters.

THE ALPENA NEWS
August 22, 1980

# Award coastal grants to northeast cities

Five northeast Michigan communities on Lake Huron, including Alpena, will receive grant monies through Michigan's Coastal Management Program to enhance coastal tesources and recreational opportunities.

According to Lew Steinbrecher, coastal planner with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, the grant awards total $118,000. The total is second only to the Detroit metropolitan area which received just a few thousand more and reflects the quality of the local projects proposed by the various communities in the region, Steinbrecher said.

Those communities which will receive funds beginning Oct. 1 are:

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—City of Rogers City—$30,000 to implement the city's coastal zone park system plan through various low-cost construction activities such as trail development at public shorefront parks in the city.

—Cheboygan—$30,000 to construct an interpretive boardwalk in te Cheboygan marsh to advance the public's understanding of the Great Lakes coastal wetlands and its value.

In addition, the coastal program also awarded a small grant to NEMCOG to help communities develop grant proposals next year, provide technical assistance for waterfront planning and zoning, sponsor various meetings on coastal issues and respond to other requests dealing with Lake Huron shoreline matters

THE NORTH WOODS CALL
"The paper for people who love the North"
50c
VOL. 25 NO. 9 LATE AUGUST EDITION $10 YEAR

# El Cajon underwater sinks may be lost to developers

## Unidentified white fish reported in cave

The threat of real estate development has spurred support for a proposal to purchase Lake Huron property adjacent to two unique underwater caverns north of Alpena.

The Michigan Land Trust Board has been asked to nominate the 36-acre El Cajon Bay property for acquisition. With about five miles of lakes Lake Huron frontage, the property's stand-out feature is the underwater sink holes, or caverns.

The biggest of the two sinks is 300 feet in diameter and 75 feet deep. A cave reportedly extends horizontally from its base inland.

Skindivers have reported seeing unusual, seemingly all white, fish in the bottom of the sink and the cave. These could be a species of fish unknown elsewhere. There has been no scientific verification or identification of the fish.

Lew Steinbrecher, Gaylord, coastal planner for the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, says the El Cajon Bay tract is "one of the most unique and interesting parcels of land in the state, or anywhere along the Great Lakes.

Russ Garltiz, a biology instructor at Alpena Community College, says he has "watched development proceed on these (nearby) shorelands at a frightening pace and believes that these areas, with their unique biological communities, will be of great value and much appreciated in the future."

Purchase of the tract in time to head off development is supported by the Dept. of Natural Resources and numerous local organizations and state conservation groups.

Much of the property is wetland. There is a scenic cobblestone beach, small stream and geologically interesting earth cracks.

It is five miles north of Alpena, between Crooked Island and Potter Point.

The Michigan Coastal Zone Management program identifies El Cajon Bay as ecologically sensitive area that should be preserved in its natural condition.

Steinbrecher, who is coordinating the preservation effort for local government agencies, warns that "such things as motels, hotels, mobile homes, multiple-family housing and marinas" are a threat, as well as single-family residential development.

When the Land Trust Fund Board failed to nominate El Cajon Bay for purchase last year, it was sold to a developer. The property has since been subdivided into lots, but none have been sold. The new owner, Steinbrecher says, is willing to retain the property in a single tract until the Land Trust Board acts on the request that it be purchased by the state.

El Cajon is named after a box canyon in southern California, Steinbrecher explains. A Spanish word, meaning a narrow canyon with vertical sides, it is correctly pronounced El Ka Hone, but commonly called El Ka Jon in the Alpena area.

It acquired its name about 1902 when the land was purchased by a group of Detroit and Toledo area investors to construct a cement plant and quarry. One of the investors was familiar with the California canyon and liked the name.

The cement plant had a short life, due to lack of capital. Some remains can still be found, Steinbrecher says.

NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
P. O. Box 457
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone: (517) 732-3551

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 21, 1980

## COASTAL GRANTS AWARDED

Five Northeast Michigan communities on Lake Huron will receive grant monies through Michigan's Coastal Management Program to enhance coastal resources and recreational opportunities. According to Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), the grant awards total $118,000. This total is second only to the Detroit metropolitan area which received just a few thousand more and reflects the quality of the local projects proposed by the various communities in the region, Steinbrecher added.

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In addition to these local projects, the Michigan Coastal Program also awarded a small grant to the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments. The grant will be used by the agency to help local communities develop grant proposals for next year, provided technical assistance for waterfront planning and zoning, sponsor various meeting on coastal issues and respond to other requests dealing with Lake Huron shoreline matters.

THE ALPENA NEWS

August 14, 1980

# Hearing set on proposed underwater park in bay

A public hearing on a proposal to establish an underwater park on the bottomlands of Thunder Bay, sponsored by the Northeast Michgan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), is set for 7:30 p.m. Aug 27 in the council chambers at the city hall, Alpena.

Bruce Andrews of the DNR Law Enforcement Division will be present to explain Public Law 184 of 1980. This law is intended to protect the historical and recreational value of Great Lakes bottomlands and to designate and regulate underwater preserves.

John Schwartz, marine agent for northeast Michigan with the Sea Grant Prgram, will present a slide program on an MSU Parks and Recreation Resources study of the Thunder Bay area bottomlands.

Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG coastal planner, will serve as moderator.

The hearing, planned to gather local input on the proposed underwater preserve, is being promoted as a "Year of the Coast—1980" event.

THE ALPENA NEWS

AUGUST 2, 1980

# Town Talk

SINKHOLE FORMATIONS, groundwater pollution, and the do's and don'ts of sinkhole exploration are the major themes to be presented in a special Jesse Besser Museum planetarium program running Aug. 1 through 16. The presentation can be seen on Friday and Saturday afternoons at 2. The show will feature the life history of a sinkhole, including the early formation, evolution, and collapsing of limestone which leads to the formation of a sinkhole. The introduction of plant and animal life to the sinkhole area will also be covered. Sinkholes are closely tied to subterranian water systems; therefore materials dumped into them could conceivably pollute residential water supplies. The need stop the dumping of trash and garbage into them will be covered. Most sinkholes are located on private property, and in many cases, climbing around and down into them can be dangerous. The legalities and dangers of sinkhole exploration will also be dealt with. The program was written by Matt Linke, biology major at Central Michigan University, and Ken Domke, geology major at Eastern Michigan University.

THE ALPENA NEWS

JULY 31, 1980

## RETURNING TO NATIONAL GYPSUM FLEET

# 82-year-old E.M. Ford--born again!

STURGEON BAY, Wis. — On May 25, 1898, one month to the day after President McKinley declared war on Spain, following the sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor, the launching of the Steamer Presque Isle took Place in Loraine, Ohio.

Today, 82 years later and in less tumultuous times, the Presque Isle, now named E.M. Ford of National Gypsum's Cement Division Great Lakes fleet, again is the center of attention. This morning, at a shipyard here, officials and dignitaries gathered to view first hand the rebirth of venerable Great Lakes matriarch.

A long and productive life appeared to be at an end for the Ford last Christmas eve, when the vessel suffered a near-fatal battering at the hands of a severe northeast winter storm.

While in layup in Milwaukee, Wis. for the Christmas holidays, with most of her crew home with their families, the Ford was hit by high winds and waves and repeatedly dashed against the docks. After more than 24 hours of gallant battling against the elements, she finally settled to the bottom of the slip at Jones Island dock. Watch crewmen escaped unharmed, after it became evident they were fighting a losing battle.

National Gypsum's resolve to bring the ship back to her former grandeur accounts for today's celebration to witness her return to service.

Crews of specialists were at the sinking site Christmas day to assess the damage and evaluate repair possibilities. Withing a week after the Ford went to the bottom, divers' surveys supported the company's decision to proceed with repairs and an all-out effort was immediately initiated work which resulted in bringing the vessel to the surface Jan. 20. Then came the task of removing 5,850 tons of cement cargo, much of which had been exposed to water and hardened within the holds.

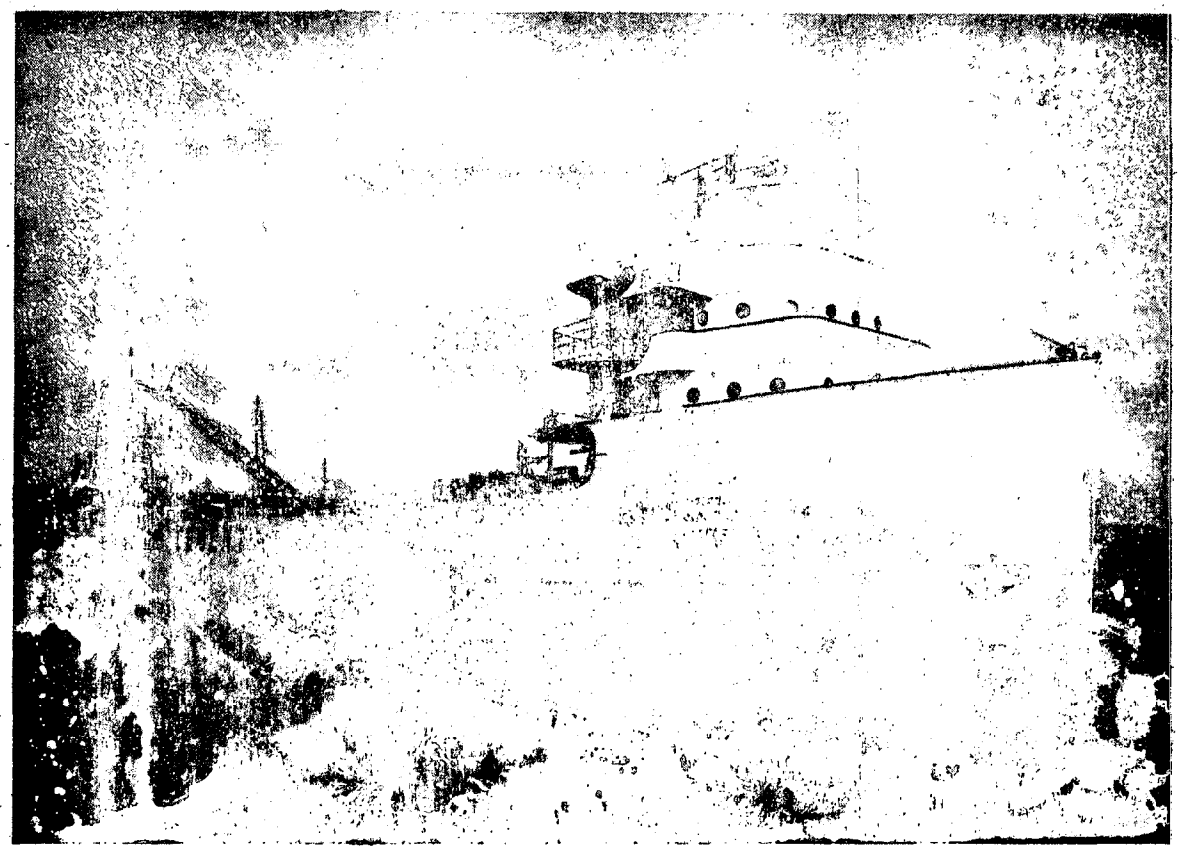
After cement removal, and between winter storms, the vessel was towed to the Bay Shipbuilding Corp. here where an around-the-clock repair effort was inaugurated to transform the battered and nearly-destroyed ship to her prior condition.

The E.M. Ford began her career under the Presque Isle Transportation Co. Flag. Until 1910 she sailed as the flagship of the Cleveland Cliffs Steamship Co., which was part owner and manager of the vessel. Because of her hull design, she was considered one of the faster boats on the lakes and plied the waters efficiently, carrying iron ore from the Cleveland Cliffs docks at Escanaba and Marquette to feed the burgeoning steel industry at the lower Lakes. The Presque Isle operated continuously for 55 years in the iron ore and coal trades, delivering over 17 million tons of cargo.

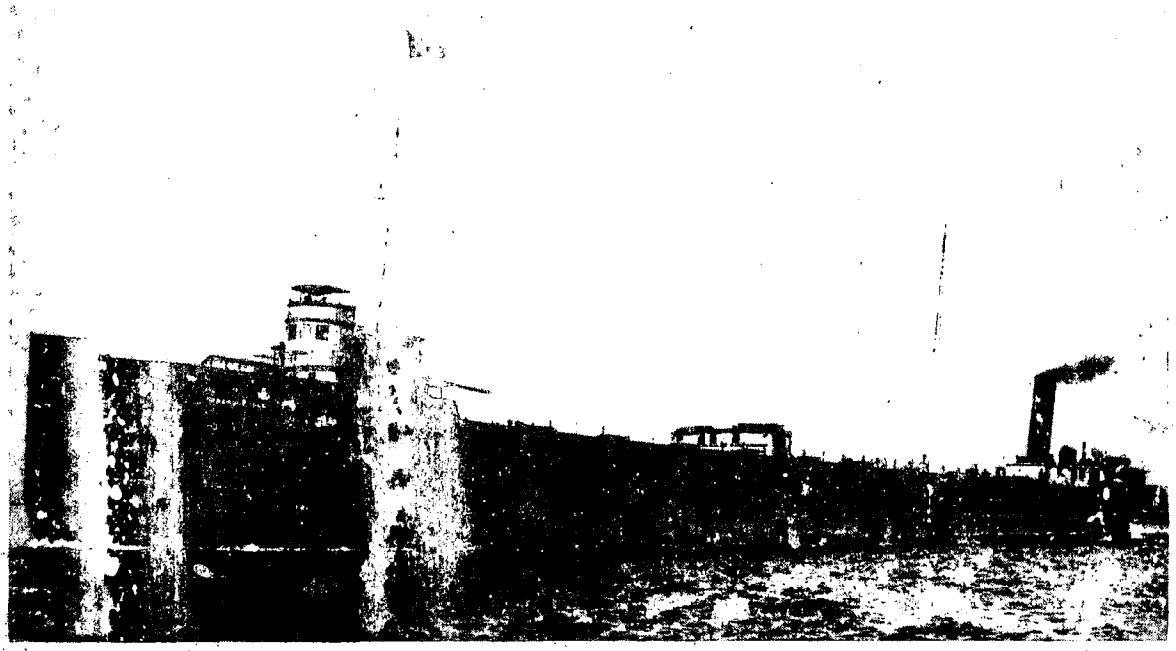
In 1955 the Huron Portland Cement Co., which later became the Cement Division of National Gypsum, purchased the vessel. In the same year, Christy Shipbuilding was awarded the contract to update the vessel and convert her to a self-unloading, bulk cement carrier. On July 24, 1956 in ceremonies at the Bob-Lo docks in Detroit, she was re-christened the E.M. Ford in honor of the company's Chairman of the Board, Emory M. Ford, and immediately joined other ships of the Huron fleet.

During the period from 1956 until the fateful Christmas eve, the Ford was a continuous and faithful performer, carrying over seven million tons of bulk cement to terminals located around the Great Lakes in Duluth, Minn; Superior, Green Bay and Milwaukee, Wis.; Waukegan, Ill.; St. Joseph, Muskegon, Saginaw and Detroit in Michigan; Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio; and Buffalo and Oswego, N.Y. The Ford's home port is Alpena, site of the largest cement producing plant in the western hemisphere.

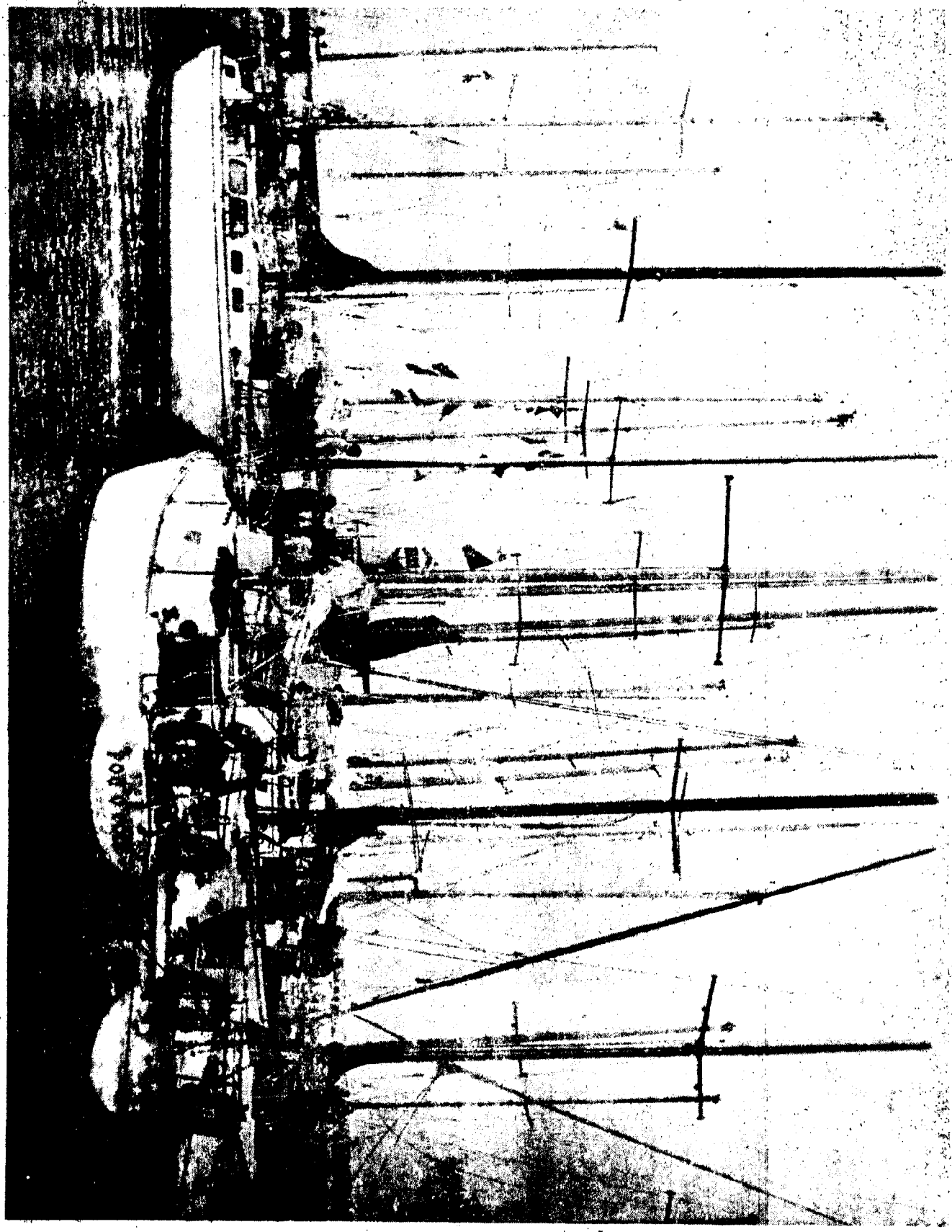
Said a company spokesman: "Respect of age is normally a trait applied only to humans. However, there may be an exception with the E.M. Ford, where respect can easily be used in describing the admiration knowledgeable lake people have for this vessel. Many have joined in wishing her another 80 years of proud service."



**READY TO SAIL AGAIN**—It was only seven months ago that the steamer E.M. Ford of National Gypsum's Cement Division fleet sank in a vicious winter storm while at dock in Milwaukee, Wis. Above is the Ford as it appears today, following extensive repairs, awaiting authorization to sail from Sturgeon Bay, Wis. for Alpena to take on a cargo of cement. Below is the vessel, as it appeared in 1900, carrying Iron Ore under the name "Presque Isle."



ALCONA COUNTY REVIEW
July 29, 1980

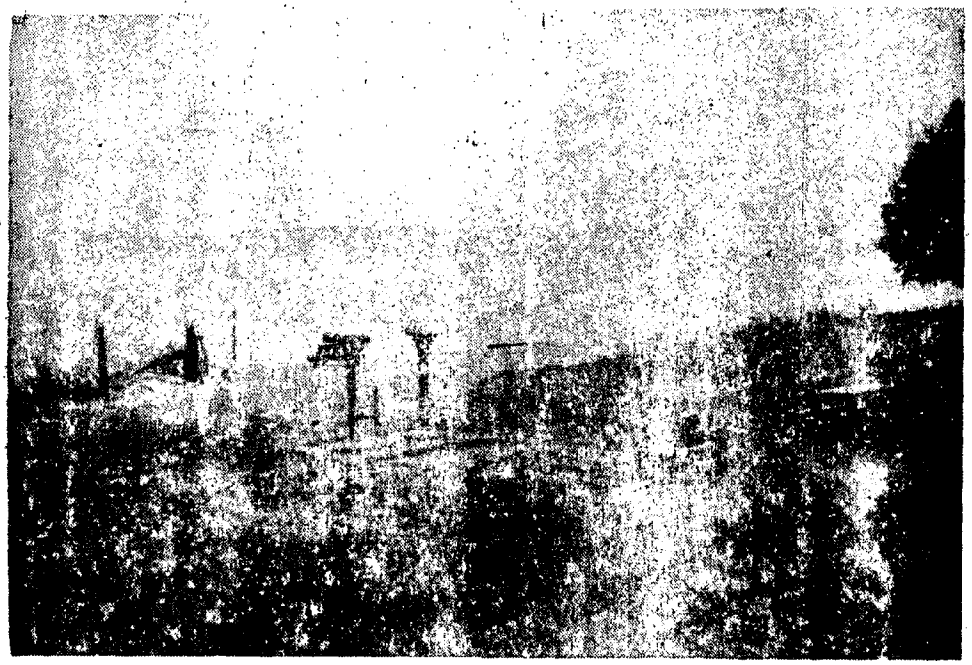


**ALL TYPES OF SAILBOATS** crowded into Harrisville's harbor last weekend, following the Port Huron to Mackinaw race. According to Harbormaster John Pridnia Sr., some were moored eight boats across.

Tour Citizen photo

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
July 24, 1980

# Mackinaw to Develop 4 Beach Parks This Summer



This is one of the four viewing sites at street ends in Mackinaw City that will be developed this summer into a shore park, utilizing frontage on the Straits of Mackinac.

Mackinaw City is preparing to establish and develop four mini parks this summer in a three block area on the beach of the Straits of Mackinac.

The locations are present viewing sites at end of Jamet, Sinclair, Depeyster, and Henry streets.

They lie between Huron avenue boulevard and the shore.

The project, which is expected to be completed in August, could make Huron street, north of the downtown business district, a famous walkway, following the shore from busy Central avenue to the state park, Mackinac Bridge, and Fort Michilimackinac.

Mackinaw will have one of the finest coastal park systems of any city in the state. In a short walk will be the downtown city park, the waterworks park, and the four new street-end parks, on the route to the state park picnic areas.

In this area the 80-foot wide streets dead-end at Hur on street. At end of each street, the shore frontage between Huron street and the Straits is at present a viewing area where folks can relax on the beach and enjoy the view of the Straits and the Bridge. Telescopes are set up on shore opposite Jamet, Sinclair, and Henry streets.

Mackinaw City applied for and got a $16,000 grant a year ago from Michigan Coastal Management for planning. A planning and design firm from East Lansing was hired for the design. Another grant was secured from Michigan Coastal Management for a $25,000 project to implement the plan. Twenty thousand dollars was a grant. Mackinaw's 20 percent matching share of $5,000 will be provided in labor and services.

Materials have been ordered, and work will start shortly. Ron Wallin, village president, said he expects the work will be done on all four parks by some time in August.

The artists' design calls for building semi-circular benches, set in shrubbery. Some benches will be built with railroad ties stood on end, and some with split stone. Flowers, grass, and shrubbery will be planted. Each little park will have a telescope to add to enjoyment of viewing.

The project includes ten interpretive displays, one or more of which will be at each park. They will be on standards anchored in concrete, and fiber-glassed over. Topincs, all of a historical nature, will include such things as the Chief Wawatam, railroads, and shipping. Location of all ten has not been decided yet.

Huron street is itself a lovely boulevard, a divided highway, where the Women's Club is carrying out an outstanding project of landscaping and beautifying the median.

+++

# CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE



Rivertown
Home Port Of The
Coast Guard
Cutter
MACKINAW



FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1980


## Mack. Council Sets Plans on Waterfront, RR Tracks

Mackinaw City Council last night at their regular meeting set more laws so that work could begin on their waterfront design project and also finalized more plans for their new water tank and repairing the railroad crossings.

Council gave Waterfront Planning and Design permission to contact Frederick Sikkens on cost for stone to be brought in to build a border around some of the areas where the waterfront improvement is being done.

Part of the work will be done to improve the waterfront near the present water tower and more will be improved at the public access off of Huron Boulevard.

Work on repairing the railroad crossings at South Huron and Nicolet is slated to begin shortly after Labor Day.

The half million dollar project to improve the curbs and approaches to the tracks will be 90 percent Federal funded and 10 percent of local funds.

Council decided to paint their new water tower cream color with a royal blue logo with the words "Great Lakes Cross Roads."

Bids on the project are expected to be let in September.

The D & M Railroad agreed to give the Village the bricks that are around the depot at no cost. The village plans to remove the bricks and store them for future use in the new park.

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Presque Isle County
ADVANCE

# Coastal study shows Lakeside Park could be city attraction

(Editor's note: The Rogers City Planning Commission, in conjunction with the Coastal Zone Management program, has nearly completed a study analyzing six parcels of land within city limits for recreational development. This article is first in a series of looks at the parcels and ways the commission is studying to develop the areas.)

* * *

Concession shops, arts and crafts stores and resort-like areas to relax in may someday be a part of Lakeside Park, if some long-range plans can be implemented by city officials.

The plans are part of the city's Comprehensive Coastal Zone Management Plan, initiated in January by the Rogers City Planning Commission to study means of development for publicly owned lakefront property. The plan outlines development ideas for six parcels of land located within the borders of the city.

City manager Jim Leidlein said the Lakeside Park development portion of the plan could potentially be the major project stemming from the study. The plan, only in tentative stages, would call for a boardwalk to be constructed over Lake Huron waters directly east of the Rogers City Harbor parking lot. Leidlein said the structure would be constructed in separate 10x10 feet sections to be removed after the summer months, to house small shops selling goods such as candles, leather crafts and snacks.

The plans also would include general landscaping work, expanded parking, a move of the band shell to nearer the pavilion so spectators could use the natural slope of ground for seating and refurbished tennis courts. Parcels of land included in the comprehensive plan are the Lakeside Park area, two areas near Seagull Point located on the west fringe of the city, three acres of undeveloped land behind the Driftwood Motel located on North Third Street, and land located near the wastewater treatment center near Vogelheim Lumber Co. on First Street.

Ideas for degrees of recreational development in the areas are part of the study, done by Snell Environmental Group of Lansing. Leidlein said the firm has nearly completed a $30,000 analysis of characteristics of the coastal lands, including what development the areas would be best suited for.

He stressed the boardwalk aspect of the plan was "strictly long range" and no cost estimates have yet been determined. Leidlein added other projects included in the plan, such as landscaping work and tennis court refurbishing, could be completed in the near future.

"The boardwalk area is a long-range goal and time will tell if and when we could do it," Leidlein said. He added the idea was brought out at a public hearing in April, where some 70 people expressed ideas concerning how the area could be developed.

Leidlein said the city has applied for a grant to cover costs for developing the coastal areas. He said the Coastal Zone Management Program has looked "very favorably" at the study, and added the chances of the city receiving funding for the projects "looks pretty good." Eighty percent of the funding for the initial study, Leidlein explained, was provided by the state, with the city picking up the remaining 20 percent. He added state and federal officials have taken an interest in the plan because "Rogers City has the unique distinction of owning more shoreline within its borders than any other city on the Great Lakes." Leidlein said should funds be approved, plans could begin on three of the development areas as early as the fall.

Ideas for improvements on sites other than Lakeside Park include nature trail improvement, interpretive signage indicating names of trees and other flora, benches, new baseball diamonds and other neighborhood recreational facilities.

Currently, Leidlein said city officials have titled designated development land "parcel one," "parcel two" and so on. New titles for the areas are being sought and Leidlein encouraged any citizen with ideas for names of the potential park areas to drop suggestions off at City Hall.

THE DETROIT NEWS
July 15, 1980

# State village to depict era of U.S. revolution

By JAMES L. KERWIN
News Staff Writer

MACKINAW CITY — Crews of archeologists this summer are recreating a Revolutionary War era settlement near here that will become the latest tourist attraction for this historic region.

The site was discovered nearly a decade ago when Ellis Olson, a history teacher, began searching for millstones.

At the time he had no idea he was stumbling upon archeological remains that help explain how pioneers obtained the materials to build their fortified trading posts in northern Michigan.

Equipped with a metal detector, Olson, who also is mayor of neighboring Cheboygan, probed the thick underbrush around Mill Creek, a fast flowing waterway four miles southeast of Mackinaw City along US-23.

HE ALERTED STATE officials after finding buttons and gun parts dating back to the War of 1812. The state only recently secured sufficient funding to develop the site.

Olson and friends uncovered artifacts pinpointing buried remnants of lumbering and grist mills that were first used in the 1780's to help construct fortifications and homes — and provide provisions — for nearby Fort Michilimackinac and the garrison on Mackinac Island.

State historians consider the site so significant, it is being restored as Michigan's newest attraction at the Straits of Mackinac, where British and American forces squared off during the Revolutonary War.

Federal and state funds are being used by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission to develop the 500-acre site as the earliest known industrial development in the Upper Great Lakes.

Interpretative trails are being cut through the dense forest this summer along with the reconstruction of a 30-foot earthen dam at the exact site used by pioneers. Some logs still remain from the original dam, built more than 200 years ago.

THE NEW PARK is expected to be open to visitors in the summer of 1982, although a visitors' center and the working grist mill — which used the millstones Olson sought — may not be completed until later.

There will be an observation platform on a 80-foot high bluff and an Indian village along with other buildings, a parking lot and picnic area to accommodate tourists.

Teams of archeologists are carefully digging up sites used nearly two centuries ago.

"It's amazing how much material we're finding," said David Armour, who oversees the project.

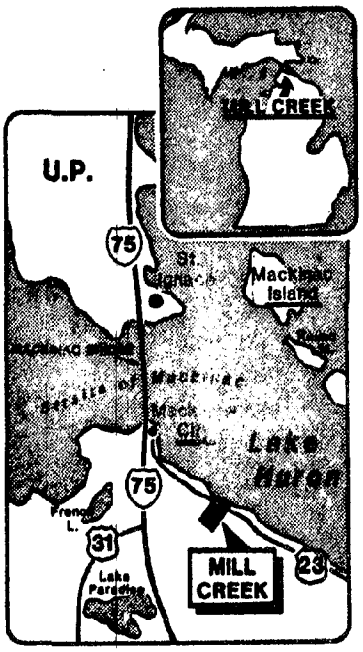
More than $163,000 already has been spent in planning and early construction at the site that overlooks Lake Huron and Mackinac Island. The next phase will cost $145,000.

**A history teacher looking for millstones discovered the site 10 years ago.**

While reconstructing the old forts at the Straits, Armour and other researchers suspected Mill Creek probably was the site of a lumber mill.

"IT WAS THE only place to generate enough water power for a mill," said Armour. Mill Creek drops about 50 feet in its descent to Lake Huron from a swampy area on a high plateau.

The new park site includes prime lake frontage and runs about 1½ miles inland. It has been part of the Hardwood State Forest, where huge cedar trees thrive.



NEWS MAP / DONALD M. JETTIE

The Mill Creek settlement thrived throught the 1820's. A quarry was operated at the site later. But the property reverted to the state for back taxes and eventually was acquired by the island park commission.

Armour said the project will show how Indians used the land to gather berries, tap maple trees for syrup and use birch in making canoes. There will be demonstrations on how to smoke fish and meat and weave mats.

The park restoration is expected to create more than 50 new jobs and generate $1.5 million in tourism spending.

THE ALPENA NEWS
NorthEastern Michigan's Newspaper
ALPENA, MICHIGAN, SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1980

# Town Talk

JACQUES COUSTEAU, the noted marine biologist and master of underwater photography who has produced some fascinating television shows on undersea life, will be sailing the Great Lakes this summer to film a documentary, but the Cosuteau Society isn't revealing his itinerary. A society researcher reportedly been seeking information on the Great Lakes, asking particularly about petroglyphs in the Port Austin area, the reefs around Pointe Aux Barques, shipwrecks in Saginaw Bay and Thunder Bay and the artifacts found around Point Lookout. Maybe we'll get a look at the famed underwater explorer (his associates call Costeau simply "The Captain") if he decides to search out the shipwrecks that lie on the bottom of Lake Huron off Alpena.

THE NORTH WOODS CALL
July 9, 1980

# Photos of Mich. coast sought

A "1980 Michigan Year of the Coast" photo contest is being sponsored by the Coastal Management Program, Dept. of Natural Resources.

Governor Milliken declared 1980 "Michigan Year of the Coast" to promote coastal awareness and encourage effective management and protection of Michigan's Great Lakes coastal resources.

Photo subject matter should be an appropriate coastal scene along on of Michigan's Great Lakes.

The contest is open to all photographers. Name, address and phone number should be printed on each of not more than five slides. Send them to the Coastal Management Program, Division of Land Resource Programs, Department of Natural Resources, Box 30028, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

Entrants are asked to send only color slides, not prints. It has been found that 35 millimeter Kodachrome film is best for color reproduction.

Photographers should provide a description of where each photograph was taken. Photos published prior to the contest are unacceptable.

A panel of photographers and artists will judge the entries, and selections will be based on composition, creativity, quality and general appeal. All entries must be postmarked by August 1.

1980 MICHIGAN year of the Coast

Plaques will be awarded to first, second and third place winners by September 15.

The top photos will be printed and displayed throughout Michigan, and may be used in publications to promote public understanding of Great Lakes shoreline problems and opportunities.

Further information about the contest may be obtained by phoning 517-373-1950.

THE NORTH WOODS CALL
July 9, 1980

# Shipwrecks unlock history

The many shipwrecks on the bottom of the Great Lakes tell much about the history of Michigan. The cold, fresh waters preserve things so well that they may contain the best kept artifacts left of early shipping days.

Many people in the Tawas City area had a glimpse of these sunken treasures when they attended a presentation by the Shipwreck History Inspection and Preservation Society (SHIPS).

The event, featured slide-tape shows and displays two shipwrecks in lakes Huron and Superior

The Canloops, which sailed the Great Lakes from 1924 to 1927, disappeared during a storm near Isle Royale, leaving no survivors. SHIPS member David Trotter said the ship rested on the lake bottom until a diver discovered its remains in 1977.

Even after 50 years in Lake Superior's icy waters, much of the ship's cargo was still in good shape. The divers found such things as baskets, shoes and baking powder on the ship and an intact lifeboat lying near the ship in 50 feet of water.

According to Trotter, the ship lies on its starboard side at a 90-degree angle.

"We could find very little damage to the hull," he noted. "But the telegraph machine in the engine room leads us to believe that they had given up and shut off the engine before the ship sank.

"Our assumption is that they made it past Isle Royale in the storm and headed down past Thunder Bay, but the storm rolled her (the ship's) stack off and, with no power to make steam, the ship was pushed back to Isle Royale, where she rested at 12 O'clock Point."

Though the Canloops had no survivors, there is evidence that some of the crew made it ashore but did not survive the night. Temperatures were recorded at -16 degrees in Duluth that night.

Larry Coplin, also a member of SHIPS, told the crowd a story that was closer to home. He described a dive on the Daniel J. Morrell, which sank approximately 30 miles east of Oscoda on Nov. 29, 1966, during a huge gale. Only one of the 28-member-crew survived.

Coplin and his crew searched for the bow of this ship. They eventually found it seven miles from the stern. The reason for its sinking is still not known. In the bow section, the divers found two windows which still contained glass, a pair of binoculars and a number of other articles in good shape. Pictures taken during the dive reveal that much of the ship remains intact, with signs on doors and appliances clearly readable.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
JUNE 21, 1980

# Start Being Made on Big Mill Creek Project

Work is starting at Mill Creek 4 miles south-east of Mackinaw City on development and construction of a 500 acre historical park that should be a tremendous tourist attraction.

On the program for this year are reconstruction of a dam and building a waterpower grist mill. An observation platform will be built, and John Volmer, Mackinac Island State Park Commission employee, is at work cutting down tall trees that would interfere with the view.

Already a parking lot has been cleared about a hundred yards from the creek. Trees were left at intervals in the lot.

The Old Mackinac Road leads through the 500 acre park. A connecting road will be cut from it to US 23.

Adjacent to the parking lot will be an information center.

Plans also call for constructing an Indian village.

Inmates from the Pellston Prison Camp will clear nature trails.

Tom Ford, field supervisor, speculated that the complete project might take several years to accomplish.

The work is being helped by a $56,500 grant from the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission, which expects that the project could be fully operational in 1982

The park is on the site of the earliest known industrial development in the Upper Great Lakes Region. The property was owned by Robert Campbell, who built a sawmill and grist mill and produced lumber and flour for the town of Mackinac Island and nearby settlers.

Oxen or horses would haul lumber and flour for boat shipment to Mackinac Island, or possibly across the ice in winter.

A 300 foot crib dam backed up water into a pond about one acre in size. The pond site is being cleared this summer.

A little of the dam remains. Water pounging over the dam turned the wheels of the sawmill and grist mill to provide power.

The industry was abandoned about 1839, says Mr. Ford, probably as result of the recession in the Panic in 1837.

The saw mill, it is reasoned, was a small scale operation and could not compete with the new sawmills being built throughout the north woods as the lumbering industry flourished.

Eventually nearly all traces of the Campbell industry disappeared.

A few years ago Ellis N. Olson, Cheboygan history teacher and present mayor, became interested and explored for it. He was successful in finding the site in 1972.

Considerable work has been done on the project by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission and others in exploring and studying the site, and planning restoration. A feasibility study was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. More than $160,000 has already been spent in planning and early construction. The next phase will cost $144,950.

Search for remains of the mill have been in vain. Tom Ford believes that quarrying for limestone, which gouged out part of the Creek shore, destroyed all traces of the mill. Mr. Ford said quarrying there was probably abandoned because the limestone was not as good quality as at Rogers City.

The probable site has been determined, based on where the waterwheels would be located with respect to the dam.

Even the stone waterwheels were gone when the site was explored. Mr. Olson found a stone water wheel at Myers Creek, and believes it was taken from Mill Creek.

Working at Mill Creek at present are a group of history students from as far away as University of Florida and University of Georgia.

Upper Great Lakes Regional Commissions say the park is erected to attract 168,000 additional visitors annually to the Straits, creating more than 50 New jobs, and $1.5 million in yearly tourism spending.

ALCONA COUNTY HERALD
JUNE 19, 1980

# Pot Luck At Lighthouse

The Sturgeon Point Lighthouse was established in 1869 (the same year that Alcona was made a county) and was called Sturgeon Point because of the large numbers of great sturgeon in the waters around the point. The sturgeon were so numerous that they became a hazard and nuisance to the small boats. Men would go out on the point, kill the fish with clubs, and haul them in, stacking them like cordwood on the beach. This scene provided an apt name for the area and the lighthouse, and a rather fragrant source of free fertilizer.

There are other stories about the lighthouse and Great Lakes shipping and shipwrecks. You can hear some of these stories on June 22 at the pot luck dinner sponsered by the Alcona County Historical Society. The dinner will he held at the Sturgeon Point Lighthouse. Doris Gauthier will share tales about the lighthouse and George Weyhing will tell us about some of the shipwrecks of the Lakes. Bill Skrobak, the State Park manager, will conduct a tour of the lighthouse itself.

The dinner will start at 2:00 Everyone is welcome, bring service, beverage and a dish to pass. This one of a series of events planned by the Historical Society to share some of the highlights and interesting sites in the history of Alcona County.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE

MONDAY, MAY 5. 1980

# Welcome to Give Mackinaw Season an Early Start

Ceremonies for launching the Welcome start Mackinaw City off this month on a great summer season.

Traditionally, the Mackinaw season begins with the Fort Michilimackinac pageant, held on Decoration Day weekend. But this year the season gets off to an earlier start with a ceremony on May 16 to launch the replica of the 200 year ago sloop Welcome, that served as a British warship on the Straits during the Revolutionary War.

The Mackinaw City Council has designated the weekend of May 16-18 as "Historic Sloop Welcome Weekend".

Chief Justice Mary Coleman of the Michigan Supreme Court is coming and will crack a bottle of champagne over the bow in the traditional ceremony. The program is at 11 a.m.

The Fort Michilimackinac Pageant will be presented for the 18th year May 24, 25, and 26. Each day the history of the fort under French and British ownership will be re-enacted.

The climax comes when Indians, seemingly assembled to play an innocent ball game, storm through the stockade in 1763 and massacre or capture all the garrison.

The grand parade is Saturday, May 24 at 1 p.m.

A Mid summer event will be the 8th annual Waterfront Art Fair on July 19 at the Village Marina only. Artists' original designs will be displayed.

Fort Michilimackinac opens for the season on May 15, and will be open daily until Oct. 15.

Archeology will again be under way, exploring and locating in the ground where houses and military buildings stood before the fort was burned and evacuated 200 years ago.

The major attractions of Mackinaw City are the fort and the Mackinac Bridge. The climax of the season comes with the Mackinac Bridge Walk on Labor Day, when some 30,000 people will walk from the St. Ignace to the Mackinaw City side. People drive hundreds of miles to walk these five miles, exulting in an unparalled chance to view the beautiful Straits.

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THE ALPENA NEWS
May 7, 1980

*PLAN COMMISSION ACTS*

# Favor natural area for riverfront park

By BRUCE MAXWELL

A plan to make the North Riverfront Park into a natural area designed for "passive" use won out over a proposal to make the park into a boat launching facility at the City Plan Commission meeting Tuesday night. The Plan Commission's recommendation now goes to the City Council for final action.

The proposed park, located on the shore of the Thunder Bay River near the post office, would feature 15 parking stalls, fishing and boat observation areas, a small shelter with built-in seating, boat mooring facilities and a seawall under the proposal recommended by the Plan Commission. The park is designed for use by foot traffic and incoming boaters, according to John Cusick, downtown development project manager for Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc., city planning consultants.

The proposal to make the park a natural area won over a plan to make the area a boat launching facilitiy with a double boat ramp and 34 parking stalls.

The park is in the planning stage, but funds for construction are not now available. The primary construction cost will be building the seawall.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE

May 1, 1980

# The Welcome will float again

During the 1770's a 55-ft armed sloop, The Welcome, was built near Fort Michilimackinac for use by John Askin, a wealthy fur trader. Two hundred years later in 1980 an exact replica of that ship will float again on the Straits of Mackinac between Lakes Huron and Michigan.

The Welcome II, under the direction of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, will be a further attraction to this historic area of Michigan. Construction of the Welcome II began in 1975 as a bicentennial project. After five years of steady work the 45 ton ship is now ready to be launched. The launching date is May 16.

Once in the water the twin-masted vessel will be further equipped to handle the tourist crowds who'll be given guided tours between July 1 and Labor Day. Interpreters in British Navy uniforms will cover the history of the Straits and the role that the original Welcome played during the American Revolution. Admission will be $1.50 for adults, $1 for teenagers and children 12 and under accompanied with a parent will be allowed to board for free. Season tickets are available for $2.50.

For further information regarding the Welcome II and her launching, contact the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, Mackinac Island, MI [illegible]

ALCONA COUNTY REVIEW
April 17, 1980

## Harrisville City Council meeting:

# MESC move, park discussed

by M. Tartaglia

Michigan Employment Security Commission (MESC) representatives will again be occupying the Harrisville City offices for the purpose of issuing unemployment checks to area residents.

The Harrisville City Council agreed to allow the return of MESC at their regular monthly meeting Tuesday evening. Several months ago the MESC moved to Maria Hall due to lack of space in the city building. They must now leave Maria Hall and have been unable to locate another building in Harrisville.

Mayor Edward Gall stated, "It does present a problem with our office and I think if we do agree we will have to close our office on the days that they are here." Councilwoman Pat Sysak commented, "We are supposed to represent all people, including people in business, and the business people would like to have them here in town." Ken Beloskur concurred, "We should do all we can to keep them here in Harrisville." After considerable discussion the council agreed to accept the MESC every other Thursday in the city offices pending preparation and signing of the agreement.

### Harbor Grant

Councilman Ken Beloskur informed the council that at the last Harbor Commission meeting with Lew Steinbrecher of NEMCOG in attendance the commission decided to apply for a $30,000 grant for the Harbor. The funds would be used to fix the creek with piling so it will not erode, place benches on top of the hill, build a pavilion by the garbage cans and erect a pavilion on top of the hill on the city lot north of the driveway entrance to the harbor. NEMCOG has suggested that as part of the city's money contribution toward the grant the city house could be torn down and the cost of tearing it down could be part of the city's match for the grant with the rest of the city portion of the cost coming from the general fund.

### Harrisville Park

John Grzeskowiak representing the Parks and Recreation Commission addressed the council relative to plans for the "Harrisville Recreation Area" (old fair grounds). He explained the total lack of funds to finance the park, except for the Beth McGregor Memorial Fund covering the construction of a woman's ball diamond. He asked the council to donate the use of city equipment and manpower to install sewer, water and electric lines into the area; and a waiver of the $300 sewer tap in fee. Mayor Gall said he was certain, but would check with the attorney, that the city can not waive the tap-in fee for anyone even itself. Gall said the city had to pay to have its own buildings hooked in. Council decided to furnish the city equipment and men as requested as their contribution toward the construction of the recreation area. Grzeskowiak informed the council that the rest rooms will be up and functioning this summer. He said that Harrisville Township gave $500 toward the cost of tap in fees with any funds left over to be applied to the cost of the rest rooms. Grzeskowiak also declared that he will be working all summer at the site and he has a lot of promised donations of work and materials from friends in Alpena. Gall advised that the existing water line to the area is too high and recommends that it be lowered when the other work is being done.

City resident, Gordon Jensen, appeared before the council to state that having sold his home on Church Street he is building a new home on 7th Street in the city. There is a deep ditch in front of his new property which he would like to fill and he questioned the need for a culvert in that area. Council gave Jensen permission to leave his temporary drive in place without the drain tube to wait and see if there is a water problem. Should there be a problem the tube will have to be installed with the city furnishing the section of tube approximately 10 feet long that goes under the driveway only.

ALCONA COUNTY REVIEW
April 10, 1980

# Recreation issue settled at meeting

Future planning for the Alcona Recreation Area will be the responsibility of the Alcona Planning Commission. This decision was reached in an amicable joint meeting of the Alcona County Board of Commissioners and the Alcona Planning Commission held Thursday night. Lack of communication between the two Boards was determined to be the major, possibly only, problem.

Planning Commission member Ralph Mills opened the discussion stating, "We have to have the cooperation of the Board of Commissioners. I have felt that we could be more helpful to the Board. We did a study on the Airport and worked on the sanitary landfill and we also did the research on the recently organized Economic Development Corporation to determine how to organize an EDC, its functions and the rules and regulations governing its operation." Continuing, "It appears that we are heading for a problem with our shopping center. It would have been better in the beginning if a study would have been done then. We are quite far along now to do a study because Mr. Pridnia has spent over $200,000 on his site."

Planning Commission Chairman John Grzeskowiak commented, "There is a need for the Commissioners to look at the Planning Commission as a tool to use to enable them to make decisions."

County Commissioner Kenneth Trower remarked, "This year we have no money. Grants are out of the question because we can't match them. The three most important things now are transportation, energy and solid waste. The transportation study that NEMCOG is talking about now is not DIAL A RIDE—they are talking highways, buses, trains, boats, etc."

"We are working for you people; we need your direction." Planning Commission member Robert Reames advised, "All we have had in Alcona County so far is reaction. We need to plan these things so you people can decide where the money will go. We are not supposed to be looking at tomorrow; we are looking at 10 or 20 years down the road."

Grzeskowiak mentioned that what he felt was needed was "a letter from the Commissioners to the Planning Commission so that everyone knows what is going on". The Commissioners agreed and a letter will be prepared and given to the Planning Commission containing specific mandates and requests.

One area of contention between the two above-named Boards and the Parks and Recreation Commission, is the development, planning, guidance and administration of the Alcona Recreation Area in Lincoln which is presently under the control of the Building and Grounds Committee of the Board of Commissioners. Grzeskowiak commented, "The ARA is still in the hands of the County Commissioners. What are we supposed to do with the $5,000 you appropriated? We are at a loss between the Parks and Recreation and Planning Commissions. Parks and Recreation cannot administer it because they have no control over the ARA; the ARA is not part of Parks and Recreation."

Gerald Jasinski, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners observed, "We have $300,000 to $400,000 tied up in the ARA. I would not be in favor of spending any funds on the ARA until we know where we stand in spending as a county; we are in a tight money crunch. We are not in a position for any funding on any major expansion."

As discussion continued, the group agreed that in the future the Planning Commission would be responsible for handling ARA planning with the information to be passed on to the Board of Commissioners for final action.

NEMCOG representative, Lew Steinbrecher, stated, "There is no textbook example of the responsibility of a Parks and Recreation Commission. They could be responsible for planning, development, operation, and maintenance for parks in the county." He observed, "you are kind of in a spot where you can't afford to plan and you can't afford not to plan."

In other business Steinbrecher reported to the Board that he felt they had an excellent chance to receive an Upper Great Lakes grant to study Fishing Impact on the area. The grant application is almost completed and with a few minor changes it is ready to be submitted if the Board acts to undertake the study. The study would consist of polling the fishermen in the area to determine their preferences and discuss issues with bait shops, hardware stores, and other commercial businesses.

The Board passed the resolution to make application for the Fishing Impact Study grant which will necessitate $2,800 in matching funds to receive the $14,000 grant.

Alcona County Review

Thursday, March 20, 1980

# Harrisville Park plan adopted

by Marion Tartaglia

Alcona Parks and Recreation Commission tentatively adopted the plan for the Harrisville Recreation Area as prepared by Michigan State University students at their regular monthly meeting in the county building on March 13th.

John Grzeskowiak presented plan sketches and a detailed blackboard diagram to the commission explaining various aspects of the plan. The area, consisting of 17.2 acres, will contain 3 ball diamonds, hardcourts, a building and parking for 30 vehicles. The parking area was established to accommodate the visitors for park functions as well as for fishermen. There will be no charge for parking, but the lot will observe the same parking regulations as on city streets and in other county parking lots located in the City of Harrisville. The lot will be closed from 3 to 5 a.m. with violators being towed away and fines imposed.

The only fund available for the park at present is the $3500 Beth MacGregor Memorial Fund which is to be used for the Women's ball diamond. The park will develop as funds become available. Grzeskowiak stated, "We don't have any money but we do have lots of free help and donations of equipment to use."

Commission chairman, Jack Houghton, commented "I talked to a couple of council persons and they say that people in Harrisville are very interested in the area, if we need to we can go back to the city council," adding "The city will allow us to hook up to the city sewer, and the water is already there." Grzeskowiak stated that he is scheduled to meet with the Harrisville Lions at their next meeting to request their help.

Don Gillard recommended that all details concerning the Harrisville County Park be set down in a written agreement with the City and any other officials involved rather than a verbal contract. Gillard then made the motion to invite the Mayor of the City of Harrisville, a member of the Harrisville Township Board and a delegate from the McGregor Fund to come to the April 10th meeting of Parks & Rec. to review the tentative plans for the park and discuss the possibility of additional financial support. Gillard said, "We need to have some continuity with local government."

receive a coastal fund grant for the park because,"In order to qualify for this grant there must be receive a costal funding grant for the park because," In order to qualify for this grant there must be coastal related items included in the form of passive recreation such as scenic view, an observation platform, steps and a walk leading directly to the lake shore, hiking trails along the coast or split rail fencing, not ball diamonds and hard courts." Steinbrecher continued, "I would suggest that you not pursue it because you will be turned down," adding, "If you should decide to pursue the coastal funding I will help you all I can; nothing in Alcona County has ever been funded with coastal funds and there are millions to give in grants." When it was suggested that steps and a path be inserted in an easement leading to the lake in order to qualify for the grant Gillard replied, "Let's not put any more people on the beach in Harrisville."

The commission voted not to pursue the Coastal Grant.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE

February 28, 1980

**ROCKPORT SINKHOLE NATURE CENTER**

3:17 p.m. Lew Steinbrecher, coastal program manager of NEMCOG, presented a slide presentation on the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study for the board's consideration and endorsement.

Moved by Commissioner Goetz and supported by Commissioner Quade to adopt the following resolution.

**Resolution**

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners has reviewed the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments under Michigan's Coastal Management Program, and;

WHEREAS, After review of this document and analysis of the resources associated with this property as addressed in the NEMCOG study, the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners concludes that these resources should be properly managed so as to preserve these amenities for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Consumers Power Company, as owner of the Rockport sinkholes and Ferron Point property has announced their desire to negotiate a lease agreement with a responsible public agency, and;

WHEREAS, The Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners believes that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks Division is the most appropriate public agency to enter into such a lease arrangement for the purpose of preserving and managing these natural resources in the interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners does hereby endorse the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners does hereby encourage the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to direct its Parks Division to step forward as the lead management agency, with funding assistance from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, for the preservation and management of the Rockport sinkholes and Ferron Point property.

Ayes: Commissioners Goetz, Quade and Klein.

Nays: Commissioners LaBita, Gryniewicz, Taratuta, LaFave, Hitchcock, Darga, Plath and Chairman Whitsitt.

Absent: Commissioner Maier.

Motion defeated by roll call vote.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE

March 7, 1980

# Mackinaw City Ready to Begin 2nd Phase of Lake Shore Development Plan

The Mackinaw City Village Council voted last night at their regular meeting to re-hire the Land Planning and Development Company to continue upgrading the lake shore.

A plan and design has been made by the company and accepted by the Council and now some of the ideas will begin taking form.

Mackinaw City was given grants for $15,000 with a matching $15,000 paid by the City from the Land and Water Conservation fund and also a $20,000 grant from Costal Management which is to be matched by $5,000 from the City in work by city employees or other contributing ways.

Plans call for new restrooms in Waterworks Park and also landscaping and building of park benches.

Council also voted to purchase one half of a lot in back of Central Avenue from Burnard Dann at a cost of $3,500 and then to spend $7,000 in improving an alley where they half of a lot is at, charging the cost to 14 businesses and two homes near the alley.

City Clerk Dorothy Wallen said that the $11,500 needed to buy the land and make improvements on the alley will be taxed to the businesses and homes as a special assessment.

She said that the 16 involved have agreed to the special assessment in order to have the improvements made on the alley.

Plans to improve the alley include blacktopping and to widen the alley.

The Council was informed last night that they have been paired off with Burr Oak which is a town in southern Michigan for mayors exchange day.

President Ron Wallen received competition Wednesday when Paul Desy announced he plans to run for President in the March 10 election so it will not be known who will be making the exchange with Burr Oak until after the election.

Although at the last last regular meeting council planned to vote on a new water tower with possibly a viewing platform it was again postponed last night.

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THE ALPENA NEWS
February 26, 1980

# Town Talk

It seems as though a plan that would ensure protection of the sinkholes north of Alpena, with help from the Department of Natural Resources, has gone down the drain. According to an article in the Feb. 6 edition of the North Woods Call, Jack Butterfield, the DNR's parks division chief, told the group trying to save the sinkholes that its plan is not worthy of department involvement. The plan called for the leasing of some 200-300 acres of Consumers Power Co. land on which the sinkholes are located (Rockport tract) and developing a nature center type complex with hiking trails and related facilites on adjoining DNR land. There are eight sinkholes within a few hundred yards of each other on the Consumers tract; it is the only sinkhole site where a NEMCOG study committee believes there is a chance to protect these geological rarities. The Alpena League of Women Voters, Thunder Bay Audubon Society and others, working through NEMCOG and in cooperation with Consumers Power Co. put considerable time and effort into developing the plan.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, February 21, 1980

# Viewpoints*

**Yours and ours**

# *Asks commissioners to put aside their prejudices*

Dear Harry:

I write this about your county commissioners' rebuff of the Rockport sinkhole projects and your comments about it. My concern stems from years of work with Thunder Bay Audubon Society and the League of Women Voters in their efforts to preserve the sinkholes of northeastern Michigan.

I can appreciate your commissioners' frustration at the seemingly endless ways found to spend taxpayers' money. As a recently appointed member of the Alpena County Planning Commission, I am getting an education on the multitude of bureaus, grants and giveaway programs that big government finds to use our money, almost always with a little local "seed" money. My first inclination was to condemn all of them. Surely we have far too much government, but at least for the present we must accept it as a fact of life. As responsible citizens we must use this bureaucratic hodge-podge wherever we can to provide the good life in our little part of the world. I think your commissioners have let their antagonism against federal (NEMCOG) and state (DNR) agencies blind them to a very valuable asset of Presque Isle County.

Sinkholes are not just holes in the ground, and they are not indestructible. Michigan is one of the few states that have them, and almost all of ours are in Presque Isle and Alpena counties. Those in Alpena County are more accessible and we have abused many of them badly. One has been completely filled as a township dump. Others are being irreparably damaged by illegal dumping. Drainage from these sinks becomes a part of our ground water. As our pure water demands grow with our population, pollution from this thoughtless dumping will inevitably come back to haunt us.

Each sinkhole is unique with an environment and plant life all its own. They are marvelous to study and impressive to view. This gives them appeal to a great many people, regardless of what some commissioners may think of them.

The Rockport sinks are so located and so well preserved that they can become the nucleus of a tourist attraction and educational center of tremendous value to our part of the country. I visualize an eventual facility that will rival Hoffmeister State Park. We do not have their sand dunes, but we do have the sinks, prehistoric Lake Huron beaches, the Bell Pines and plenty of forests. A nature center to interpret these and to guide visitors could attract thousands of people. Our scenery is not the same as western Michigan, but it is equally beautiful. Regardless of how we feel about it, much of the future wealth of northeastern Michigan must be brought here from outside. We must make our land as attractive as possible by preserving its outstanding features and making them accessible to the public.

NEMCOG and the DNR are far from perfect, but they do some things very well. NEMCOG's sinkhole study was very helpful in persuading Consumers Power to agree to lease the land. The DNR's parks division is one of the best in the country. Our state parks are as well run as any anywhere. We need their help on this project.

The very least you should expect from your commissioners is that they put aside their prejudices and take an objective look at the Rockport sinkholes project. They might start by viewing the Alpena League of Women Voters' sinkhole slide show. I'm sure they would be glad to show it in Rogers City.

Yours very truly,
O.B. Eustis
Lachine, Mich.

THE NORTH WOODS CALL
February 20, 1980

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## Sinking our sinkholes

Refusal of state parks chief Jack Butterfield to participate in a plan to save even a handful of Michigan's unique sinkholes--a true natural wonder--is outrageous. It is grossly irresponsible, a flagrant violation of his assignment as keeper of Michigan's state park system.

After nine years of frustrating effort by dozens--maybe hundreds--of northeastern Lower Peninsula conservationists, citizens and Consumers Power Co. agreed to establish a nature preserve to protect eight of the sinkholes. These are the only eight the group feels are savable. They are close together and under one ownership--Consumers Power Co.

Consumers, in a move for which it should be widely applauded, agreed to lease the 200 to 300 acres for $1. Because the utility's investors purchased the 3,600-acre tract--the old Rockport quarry--as a potential generating plant site, the company cannot responsbily sell it at this time. It may be for sale if future studies show it is not suited for a power plant, which is highly probable.

The only logical agency to manage and operate the sinkhole preserve is the DNR's state parks division. That's what it was established to do: obtain and retain the state's natural wonders for all citizens, of all generations, to enjoy and learn from.

That's not the way Butterfield sees his job. He gave the citizens' group the cold shoulder. If he can't outright gain ownership of the entire Rockport tract on Lake Huron he isn't interested. He wants to build modern campgrounds, parking lots, beaches, playgrounds and all those things that bring in lots of people and lots of dollars. He has no time for piddling around with something like a few holes in the ground, even if they are like no other holes in the ground anywhere in the state--and hardly anywhere else.

In sending the sinkhole plan delegation packing, Butterfield made it clear he's still miffed that Alpena conservationists put together the statewide protest to the parks division bid to save Negwegon State Park, at the south end of Thunder Bay and intends to "get even" with them. Until they let the cement trucks into this precious natural area, Butterfield will allow off-road vehicles, and anyone else, maul it to shreds.

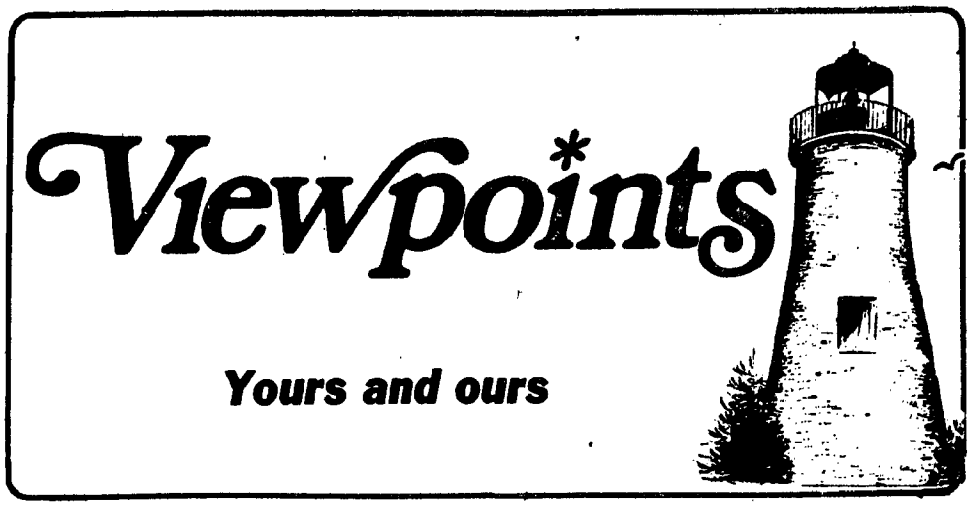
Butterfield's claim that there is no money to develop an inexpensive, rustic, nature center and hiking trail complex at the Rockport sinks and operate the center is an excuse. Sure things are tight. But with DNR backing, the legislature would come through with a few bucks to save the sinkholes.

Rarely has there been an opportunity to accomplish so much with no controversy and hardly any money. Rarely has there been an opportunity to demonstrate how important a partner industry (Consumers Power Co.) can be in the conservation movement.

The only opposition comes from the DNR's parks division.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, February 14, 1980

The same letter appeared in the February 13, 1980 edition of THE ONAWAY OUTLOOK




# NEMCOG frustrates board chairman

Dear Editor:

Due to the articles in The Onaway Outlook and the Advance and having been present at the discussion concerning the "Sink Holes" and the study made by NEMCOG, I feel I should state my impression of the whole incident.

First of all, there wasn't any visible representative from either of your papers so I must assume that the information you based your article on was from someone else, that I feel must have overemphasized some of the points you made.

The report on Radio Station WHAK and the article in the Alpena News, that both had people there, did not reflect the vindictive attitude that appeared to me to be very prevalent in your articles.

NEMCOG is a federally funded agency but they must have local tax dollars for seed money to qualify them to apply for federal funding for their several projects' operational costs. The results at the best in my estimation are very minimal.

It appears after asking a lot of questions that NEMCOG can apply for and receive project funding at the suggestion of a very few people for most any immaterial or whimsical suggestion to conduct a study regardless of cost or value. This is why the Presque Isle Board of Commissioners became so upset. It seems we have no veto power nor are we consulted at all prior to spending part of the appropriation of tax dollars that we had caused to be part of the expense of Presque Isle County government by putting it in the budget. Then they come along and expect wholehearted support for spending tax dollars to tell us the "sink holes" are eroding rapidly and unless they are protected and properly regulated would disappear into oblivion in a very short time. It is reasonable to assume they have been there since shortly after the Ice Age which leads me to believe they will survive for several thousand more years to come. Frankly, I have not been conditioned to appreciate the beauty that I have been told is there and as to the attraction for tourist or the local residents the late Arthur Poch could testify, he tried it.

Did you have the privilege of seeing the catalogue type of brochure that was compiled and printed to be handed out to justify the expenditure of thousands of tax dollars that I consider to be a complete waste?

It was more than 20 pages of maps and printed material bound in a soft cover with a flexible plastic binding. It certainly demonstrated the lack of respect for tax dollars.

Concerning the DNR and the management of lands, frankly most people in my district feel there is already enough if not too much of our local tax base removed from the ad valorem tax list because the land is under the control of the DNR especially in northeastern Michigan.

I belive even you will admit that the rules imposed by the DNR in certain areas and the attitude of some of the enforcers of them can be very irritating at times. I cannot speak for Mr. Darga but in LaFave's case I am sure his position is a direct reflection of that of his constituents, which is the duty and responsibility of a good public servant, according to my values.

Sincerely,
Neil Whitsitt, Chairman
Presque Isle Board of Commissioners

(Editor's note: We had a representative at your meeting but you just didn't recognize him. I understand your frustrations but the fact remains that Mr. LaFave was blatantly unfair in making accusations that were unfounded and did not relate to the facts.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, February 14, 1980

This same letter appeared in the February 13, 1980 edition of THE ONAWAY OUTLOOK.

# LaFave replies to bias charge

Dear Editor:

This letter concerns your most recent PUBLISHER'S CORNER story, labeled "Personal bias erodes Commissioner's usefulness."

I hate to dignify the article by commenting on it; however, it misleads, tends to evade the facts, twist the truth and puzzles those who were in attendance which did not include yourself. In fact, I can remember very few meetings which you have been at in the most recent several years. Both the WHAK Radio Station and the Alpena News reported the Sink Hole story which seemed fair, factual and so different from your own.

The fact of the matter is that you have been upset ever since our Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution which I presented in support of Senator Mack for his opposition to what I label "The Anti-Northern Michigan" WETLANDS BILL, of which you are so proud. Your rage was vented to the chairman, Neil Whitsitt, against the person who presented the resolution and rest of the board for voting for it. Your letter, Mr. Whitsitt's reply and my own reply were never made public. I am most satisfied with my position against the Wetlands Bill. People will no doubt forget my position; however, I feel they will never forget yours and your role in it. It is one thing for a person to sign away their rights to a parcel of property; however, it is another thing when you lose your rights to your **overtaxed private property**, to a bureaucratic department of the state which does not have to answer to any voter or taxpayer.

Now in regard to the Sink Hole issue, we heard from Mr. Lew Steinbrecher of NEMCOG concerning his proposal. We were reminded that the land in question was a part of a parcel of property owned by Consumers Power Company approximately 3,700 acres in size. Part of this parcel is in Presque Isle County and the balance is in Alpena County. The Sink Holes are next to the county line. The proposal was to develop the Sink Holes as a tourist attraction along with foot trails and request the DNR to enter into a lease agreement with Consumers Power Company if both parties agreed.

My question to Mr. Steinbrecher was, "Who started this idea?" I was informed that it was a group from Alpena County. Mrs. Doyle made the statement that some of the people in her area were interested also. It was about at this point that I stated that I had suspicions of what could happen in the future if we went along with the proposal. In the past there were stories about a possibility of a generating plant on the property in question. Would it be nice if the portion in Presque Isle County were used for a tourist attraction while the real tax base, the generating plant was built in Alpena County. Yes, this would be nice for Alpena County; however, my concern is for my own county of Presque Isle. I also asked if it was a possibility that once we had our tourist attraction leased from Consumers Power they might come to Presque Isle County and ask for property tax relief.

I went on to say that we need industry in our area. I hate to see our children forced to leave the area to find work in order to support themselves. Tourism is important to our area and does help the business and all of us either directly or indirectly; however, there are other important areas that must be developed too. What good would it do for us to spend the money we have on our industrial park, then blunder on a parcel of property with a better known potential, for no gain at all?

I did take a cut at the DNR when it was suggested that they become the agency to enter into the agreement with, because they were the most appropriate agency. It had just been announced that they were closing 37 parks in the state. Please note that when I refer to the taxpayer and voter's feelings about the DNR, it is intended for the department and not our fine local men such as Mr. Phillips and Mr. Van Stee and many others who are a compliment to the department and an asset to their community.

At one point I assured Mr. Steinbrecher that had he misunderstood me, my apology was extended, that I felt he had been given a job to do and that he had executed it well. I further stated that the NEMCOG office would serve the area better if they were to stop planning and each grab a handful of tree seedlings and plant them on both private and state waste land. In a few years we would have more than plans; we would be assisting the greatest industry in the north, the wood industry.

Even though you feel that you can no longer use me, Harry, I will attempt to vote in a manner which I feel is agreeable with the voters and taxpayers in my district.

Sincerely,
Leonard L. LaFave
County Commissioner, Dist. #5
Onaway, Mich.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, February 14, 1980

February 13, 1980 edition of THE
ONAWAY OUTLOOK

## Publisher's Corner

# *Replies well intended but they missed the point*

**by Harry Whiteley**

On the accompanying page are four letters to the editor, all in response to a column I wrote last week in which I criticized county commissioner Leonard LaFave for making what some considered false and uncalled for accusations against Consumers Power Company and the Department of Natural Resources in a matter in which neither as yet had become involved.

The first letter comes from board chairman Neil Whitsitt. He gives his colleague a gentle pat on the back for uttering what he considers a reflection of LaFave's constituents' thinking, but the general tone is an airing of his frustrations with NEMCOG. No argument there.

The next letter is from LaFave but he skirts making any response to our specific criticism. Instead, he throws brickbats at the writer, goes all around Robin Hood's barn talking about wetlands legislation, industrial development, taxation and everything else unrelated to my specific complaint. He gives you that old song-and-dance about my article being misleading, tending to evade the facts and twisting the truth. He winds up by saying any ill feeling he portrays for the DNR is for the "department," not for the fine local men in it. That, I guess, could be construed to mean that he likes the guys who work there but not the buggers who run it!

Well, it's nice to be able to rephrase your comments in flowery form, water them down and serve them up again but that, Mr. LaFave, is NOT ALL THAT YOU SAID OR WHAT YOU SAID. You castigated and condemned an agency and a utility without regard for the facts, and showed your personal bias. And that's what we criticized you for and all that we criticized you for. Had your statements at the commission meeting been as rational as those made in your letter, there would have been no need or desire to expose what you really said.

And then there was a third letter from Dan Darga....

The fourth letter comes from a man who requests that his name be withheld from publication. Normally, we throw those in the wastebasket. This letter, however, deserves an answer because the writer obviously doesn't fully understand how government functions. Hopefully, an explanation might just be the catalyst that could bring about a better understanding for all concerned.

The Department of Natural Resources is a very powerful agency, influencing the lives of more people in more ways than any other entity of state government. On that point, we agree. As a member of the commission which sets policy for the department, I share an awesome responsibility at no salary and take a lot of abuse.

Whether it is right or wrong for a commission or a department to have so much authority is not for me to say. The fact is that we do have that authority, and we are required by law to discharge it.

The laws under which the commission and department function were in all instances enacted by the Legislature and signed by the governor. Some have been interpreted by the Supreme Court.

Important in all this is that the Legislature, the governor and the Supreme Court are all elected by the people of Michigan. Those of us in subordinate roles are simply carrying out the orders given to us by the elected representatives of the people who vote. That is the way our system of government works.

The laws governing the operations of the Natural Resources Commission and the DNR began to be established in 1837, the year Michigan became a state, and have been added to ever since. They now fill two very thick books. Never has either the commission or the department tried to exercise power or authority not granted by the people.

I could go on at length to refute the many specific issues raised. I could point out, for example, that the lands which the DNR owns and manages in the public interest were, in more than 85% of all cases, deeded to the state after private individuals tried and failed to make a living from them. I could point out that you can't cut trees for firewood and grow those same trees into timber for the lumber industry. You can't have unrestricted hunting, fishing, camping, boating, swimming, ORVs, or snowmobiling. Those activities have to be regulated if only to keep people from interfering with each other.

The notion that the Natural Resources Commission or the DNR is in any way responsible for current prices of gasoline or fuel oil is preposterous. Michigan imports more than 95% of its energy fuels — a very worrisome statistic if you stop to think about it — and nothing we do or don't do in the Pigeon River Country State Forest will change that. When it comes to energy, Michigan is entirely at the mercy of outside influences beyond our control.

You refer to a "silent majority." Maybe the trouble is that the majority has been silent for too long. Ours is a government of majority rule, the essence of democracy. Perhaps you might better address your questions to your elected representatives in government and, if you do not approve of their answers, seek through the democratic process to replace them with persons who will better reflect your views.

THE ALPENA NEWS
February 12, 1980

# Deadline near for shoreline grants

Local units of government along the Great Lakes shoreline in Michigan have until Feb. 15 to submit pre-application grant proposals to the Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance under the State's Coastal Management Program.

Funds must be used for coastal related projects such as water front park designs or feasibility studies, engineering for lake-front development, improving public access or recreation areas, restoration and preservation of unique coastal historic sites, completion of coastal section for local recreation plans or economic and industrial development design concepts.

Coastal Program monies cannot be used for land acquistion, the purchase of recreational equipment, or the construction of seawalls or non-coastal related facilities such as ball diamonds.

Northeast Michigan communities which have received Coastal Program grants in the past include Mackinaw City for the design and low-cost construction for the village's east site waterfront parks, the City of Alpena for the design of the Thunder Bay River North Bank Park and the City of Rogers City for the development of its coastal zone park system.

Once the pre-applications are submitted, local units have until April 4, 1980 to develop and submit formal grant proposals. For more information or assistance in completing and submitting grant applications to the Coastal Management Program, contact Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG, P.O. Box 457, Gaylord, Mich. 49735.

PRESQUE ISLE ADVANCE
Thursday, February 7, 1980

## Publisher's Corner

# *Personal bias erodes Commissioner's usefulness*

**by Harry Whiteley**

On more than one occasion, we have said that the present Board of County Commissioners is one of the best we have had. They have responded to many situations with vision and competence and have operated in a very businesslike, rather than political way.

Recently, however, that image is becoming a bit tarnished by the constant mouthings of several of the members who seem intent on hearing themselves talk. We refer to Commissioners Leonard LaFave and Daniel Darga, the latter having recently stated that his opinion was just as good as the State Attorney General's.

Both are pretty good eggs who obviously mean well but we feel for them when they pop off with their one liners that make little reference to the facts.

A case in point is the recent meeting of the Commission when a presentation was made concerning a proposal that was intended to protect and preserve the historic sinkholes that lie in the confines of Presque Isle and Alpena counties.

The sinkholes, in some cases are being used as dumping grounds. There are people who would like to see them and have an interest in their geological and historical significance. Yet, they are, to a degree, inaccessible.

A few years ago, a small group began to seek out ways of protecting and managing the sinkholes with the thought in mind that people ought to have the opportunity to learn more about them. Thus, the concept of nature trails and an interpretive center came into being.

Much of the land where the sinkholes lie is in ownership of Consumers Power Company... so if the area were available for public use, who would administer it and how? These were questions that were being asked.

The next step, however, was to proceed with a study or a comprehensive plan, something that could be presented and something which might have the support of individuals and organizations in the area.

The study was completed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments and a representative of that agency, Lew Steinbrecher, began making a series of presentations to the various governmental units within Alpena and Presque Isle counties. All were enthusiastic and endorsed the concept of preserving, managing and protecting the sinkholes. To some it looked like a boost for tourism.

When Steinbrecher made his pitch in Rogers City, however, it was a different story.

Right off the bat LaFave and Darga criticized him for not talking to them first. The poor guy had to start someplace but these two wanted to be first.

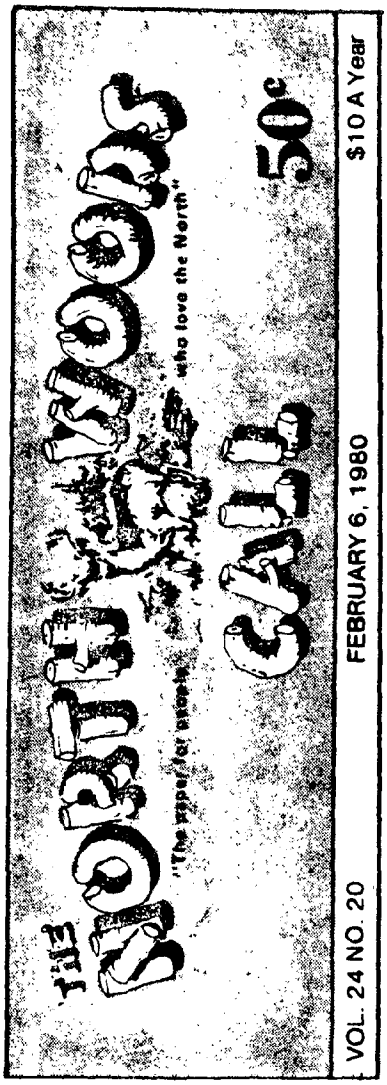
When the NEMCOG spokesman mentioned Consumers Power, LaFave said that he thought it was an attempt by Consumers to get property tax relief, when in fact Consumers had been REQUESTED to lease their property for public use. If the truth was known, they probably were reluctant to do so but as a good-will gesture offered it for $1 per year. For that they were condemned.

When the NEMCOG spokesman suggested that the Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources might be the most appropriate agency with whom to negotiate the lease, LaFave again spoke without knowing what he was talking about.

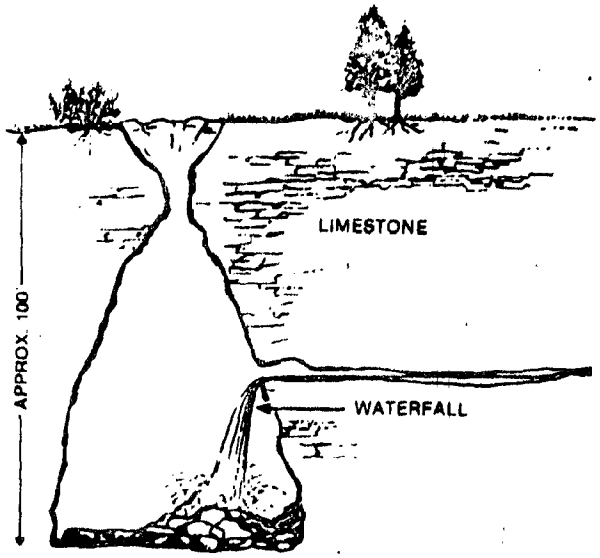
He berated the DNR and accused them of wanting to "gobble up" and control more land in the county, when in fact the Department of Natural Resources had no involvement whatsoever in the project. They had not even been asked at that point to be a party to the lease agreement. And it's again safe to say, that they too, like Consumers Power, could well become reluctant partners in the project. Yet they were publicly condemned.

Though we have an association with the DNR, we are not out to defend it. We have misgivings about the value of NEMCOG and we carry no torch for Consumers Power. We're not out to promote anything either, and if the environment and recreational development are not high priority items of the board, we can understand that.

We do think, however, that regardless of whom their targets are, the outbursts of Darga and LaFave, in particular (who incidentally are making Frank LaBita look like a pussycat in comparison) are unwarranted and in poor taste when unrelated to the facts, and thus erode their usefulness as county commissioners.




## Michigan's vanishing sinkholes




MICHIGAN'S UNIQUE SINKHOLES are formed as groundwater carves a cave in underground limestone and the shallow topsoil falls into the hole. The water dissolves the stone, creating caverns up to 200 feet deep and 300 feet wide. Only about 200 sinkholes exist, though more are being formed by nature. The "Rockport sinks" are said to be the only ones the state has a chance to preserve. (*Drawing from Michigan Natural Resources Magazine.*)

# DNR parks chief vetoes plan to save sinkholes

The dis-interest of state parks officials in helping citizens and Consumers Power Co. protect the most valuable of northeastern Lower Michigan's unique sinkholes has stymied the project.

Jack Butterfield, Dept. of Natural Resources parks division chief, has told the group trying to save the sinkholes that their plan is not worthy of department involvement.

The proposal calls for leasing about 200 to 300 acres of Consumers Power Co. land on which the sinkholes are located and developing a nature center type complex, with hiking trails and related facilities, on adjoining DNR land.

There are eight sinkholes within a few hundred yards of each other on the Consumers' property north of Alpena. Called the Rockport tract, it is the only site on which so many sinkholes are in such close proximity and the only one where members of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) study committee believes there is a practical chance to protect them.

All of the other sinkholes–which are found in few other places in the world–are on small tracts of private land and are widely scattered, mostly in Presque Isle and Alpena counties. Many have already been badly abused, having been used as trash and garbage

(Continued on Page 8)

# DNR chief vetoes

(Continued from front)

dumps. One small village filled a sinkhole near town by using it as the public garbage dump.

The sinkholes range from 100 to 300 feet in diameter at their widest point and are up to 150 feet deep. The top of the hole may be only a few feet wide up to a couple hundred. Most are cone-shaped, with the small end at the top.

They are formed as water wears an underground cavern in limestone. This cavern grows until the surface is so thin that it collapses. There are thought to be many sinkholes that have not been exposed because the "roof" has not collapsed.

The heavy deposit of limestone runs from the Rogers City-Alpena area west to the Petoskey-Charlevoix area. On the west side of the peninsula, top soil and glacial drift are thick enough that it has not fallen in to expose the underground caverns.

In addition to their geologic uniqueness, the sinks are the home of rare plants, some that are reportedly found nowhere else in North America.

After at least 15 years work by the Alpena League of Women Voters, the Thunder Bay Audubon Club and others, working recently through NEMCOG, a plan was developed with the cooperation of Consumers Power Co. to protect the Rockport sinkholes. The Natural Resources Commission last summer encouraged the group to come forth with a plan.

Butterfield, however, told the group that unless the state could have complete ownership of the Rockport property (Consumers has 3,600 acres there along Lake Huron) he would not participate.

The plan calls for developing minimal facilities to support a trail and nature interpretation system, with all but trail development on adjoining state land. The development work and staffing was to be provided by the DNR.

O.B. Eustis, a spokesman for the group, points out that the DNR has the expertise and can obtain public funding for such a project. He adds that it clearly has statewide significance.

Though the DNR appears to have turned its back on what may be Michigan's last chance to preserve a few of the state's sinkholes in their natural state, Eustis says the Alpena area group has not given up.

Consumers district manager Dick Dahlquist, Cheboygan, says the company will keep lease offer on the table, but would like to see some action. The public, he explains, freely uses the Consumers lands at Rockport. Off-road vehicles and foot traffic is killing fragile, and in some cases rare, vegetation and causing erosion at the sinkholes. Littering and trash dumping are another problem.

Consumers purchased the former Rockport quarry and harbor, with nearly five miles of Lake Huron frontage, nine years ago as a potential site for a nuclear or coal-fired generating plant. The quarry has been mined since 1948. The company has not decided if it will build on the site. If it does, construction would not start until 1989 or 1990.

There would be no actual construction near the sinkholes, Dahlquist points out. Establishing a nature study and appreciation area around the sinkholes would not interfer with construction or operation of the plant. The company, however, feels it must retain ownership of all of the land as a buffer for the plant, if it is built.

The NEMCOG study committee endorsed this cooperative approach with the company, citing it as an opportunity to demonstrate that industry and nature can co-exist.

Eustis says the study group will now seek the cooperation of the Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners to obtain a federal Coastal Zone Management grant to develop detailed estimates of the cost of building trails, a nature center with restrooms and parking lots.

When this is completed, the group may return to the DNR or seek grants to go ahead with development and organize a non-profit group to sign the lease with Consumers.

Ultimately, the project can succeed only if it is managed by the DNR, Eustis insists. The one-time cost of development, he says, might be covered by grants, from foundations or individuals, but the annual maintenance and operating costs would be too high for a purely local volunteer group.

File Copy
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NEMCOG

Northeast Michigan Council
of Governments
P. O. Box 457
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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 4, 1980

COASTAL GRANT PRE-APPLICATION DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 15, 1980

Local units of government along the Great Lakes shoreline in Michigan have until February 15, 1980 to submit pre-application grant proposals to the Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance under the State's Coastal Management Program. Funds must be used for coastal related projects such as waterfront park designs or feasibility studies, engineering for lake-front development, improving public access or recreation areas, restoration and preservation of unique coastal historic sites, completion of coastal section for local recreation plans or economic and industrial development design concepts. Coastal Program monies can not be used for land acquisition, the purchase of recreational equipment, or the construction of seawalls or non-coastal related facilities such as ball diamonds.

Northeast Michigan communities which have received Coastal Program grants in the past include Mackinaw City for the design and low-cost construction for the village's east site waterfront parks, the City of Alpena for the design of the Thunder Bay River North Bank Park and the City of Rogers City for the development of their coastal zone park system.

Once the pre-applications are submitted, local units have until April 4, 1980 to develop and submit formal grant proposals. For more information

-MORE-

or assistance in completing and submitting grant applications to the Coastal Management Program, contact Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG, P.O. Box 457, Gaylord, Michigan 49735 or phone (517) 732-3551.

*Contact Person:* Lew Steinbrecher

*Distribution:* Coastal Management Mailing List

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PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
January 31, 1980

# Commissioners rebuff sinkhole project in area

A proposal to support the concept of managing, preserving and protecting the historic sinkholes, which lie primarily in the confines of Presque Isle County, met with opposition when it was presented to the Board of Commissioners at their regular monthly meeting held Friday in Rogers City.

The presentation, made by Lew Steinbrecher of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, the agency making a study of the project, provided a forum for several of the commissioners to verbally lambaste the Department of Natural Resources and Consumers Power Company.

The proposal, first suggested by a group of citizens interested in the historical and geological significance of the sinkholes and a desire to protect them, became known several years ago and interest from others has increased during the intervening time. Steinbrecher explained that the study developed by NEMCOG explored the possibility of providing nature trails and picnic and camping areas and an interpretive center, all available for public use.

"Few people have seen the sinkholes and some have been devastated by use of a careless public as mere 'dumping grounds.' Thus the concept evolved that they be protected and utilized for the public good," he said.

Steinbrecher told the group that the project became a possibility when Consumers Power Company, owners of much of the land involved near Rockport, agreed to a request for a lease arrangement with some appropriate management agency. Although no such agreement has been signed, he said that Consumers would do so if there was enough interest to go through with the project.

He further reported that he thought the Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources would be the most appropriate agency to accept the lease and manage the project because of their having the expertise to do the job. The DNR, however, at this point has not been contacted.

Commissioner Leonard LaFave said that he thought it was an attempt by Consumers Power Company to get some property tax relief. He also stated that he was opposed to the DNR being placed in charge of anything. "Everything the DNR does always turns sour. If I was to vote for the DNR in such a program, I would be voted out of office, probably impeached. That's how the people of my area feel about the DNR," he continued.

Commissioner Dan Darga then took NEMCOG to task, stating that he hadn't seen NEMCOG help Presque Isle County develop anything but sinkholes, nature trails and bike trails. "What we need is some way to keep our young people here, not send them away when they graduate," he said. "If NEMCOG was doing something about that then I would say they are doing something."

Steinbrecher said it was not imperative that the DNR be the managing agency and if the board just wanted to approve the concept it would be alright. He then went on to explain that the Rockport property owned by Consumers Power is one of eight sites being considered for a nuclear power plant, but any decision in that regard is at least 10 years away.

What really apparently ticked off the board was the fact that Steinbrecher had not come to them to explain the study before he went to the Alpena board and other groups. The Alpena Board, Presque Isle Township and the Presque Isle County Planning Commission along with several other groups had already endorsed the project.

Commissioner Frank LaBita said he hoped Steinbrecher would not fall into the footsteps of former NEMCOG Director Rodney Parker. "It seems that Parker did something for everyone except Presque Isle County," LaBita said.

Commissioner Leo Goetz defended Steinbrecher, saying that he didn't think it right for the commissioners to attack him and as far as he was concerned the NEMCOG representative did the right thing by going to Presque Isle Township first.

Steinbrecher concluded his presentation by saying that if Consumers Power negotiated a lease it would be for $1 per year for 20 years, with a renewal option.

Commissioner Goetz moved adoption of the resolution but it failed 8-3 with Edwin Quade, Mel Klein and Goetz in favor and Darga, LaFave, Edwin Taratuta, Emil Plath, LaBita, Adam Gryniewicz, Neil Whitsitt and Ray Hitchcock opposing.

OSCODA COUNTY NEWS
January 31, 1980

# NEMCOG NATRAC

On January 23, 1980 the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) held a Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NATRAC) meeting in the Ponderosa Steak House Meeting Room, Alpena.

The NATRAC Committee reviewed a new Area of Particular Concern (APC) nomination known as the Harrisville Recreation Area. The APC was nominated by the Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission which intends to apply for a grant under the Michigan Coastal Management Program to develop the 17 acre property for recreational purposes. The Committee placed regional endorsement on th the nomination and assigned high regional priority to the site.

In another coastal related matter, Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG, reported to the Committee on recent developments in the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail Project. "Considerable local, regional, and statewide support now exists for the concept," Steinbrecher told the Committee. He informed the members that a presentation was being prepared for the Natural Resources Commission, DNR's governing board. NEMCOG's recommendation is for the DNR Parks Division to become the lead management agency in the project. Consumers Power Company, owner of the Rockport Sinkholes, announced their willingness to negotiate a lease for public access to the area last October.

THE ALPENA NEWS
Saturday, January 26, 1980

# Presque Isle board balks at opening Rockport nature area

By SUSAN GRULKE

ROGERS CITY — The Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners, never known to simply "rubber stamp" projects just because someone else does, continued that tradition Friday.

The board voted 8-3 against endorsing a proposal to make the Rockport sinkhole area in the sourthern part of the county available for public use. Endorsement for the project had come from the Alpena County Commission, Presque Isle County Planning Commission and Presque Isle Township, among other governmental units.

In voicing opposition, the board criticized Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) and the Department of Natural Resources. But most of all, commissioners were miffed that their endorsement was being sought after support had already been gained from other groups.

Lew Steinbrecher of NEMCOG appeared to explain the project to the board. A study developed by NEMCOG staffers, with input from Presque Isle Township and Alpena County residents, explored the possibility of providing nature trails and picnic and camping areas in the sinkhole area to encourage use of the land by the public.

Consumers Power Co. owns the parcel. It is in the center of some 3,700 acres owned by the utility, with the total property divided about equally between Presque Isle and Alpena counties. The nature area, however, would be contained entirely in Presque Isle County.

The study proposal calls for the Parks Division of the DNR to act as the lead management agency in the project, with 80 percent of the project cost to be provided by federal funds through the Michigan Coastal Management Program.

DNR involvement in the project brought objections from the board.

"You're helping the DNR gobble up and control more land in this county," charged Leonard LaFave. He questioned whether the DNR was the best agency to head up the project, and said he fears Consumers Power would ask tax relief for the property after it had been leased for public use.

LaFave pointed out that Consumers has designated an area just east and south of the sinkhole area as a possible site for a power plant. He charged that Alpena County residents are pushing the sinkhole project for Presque Isle County so that if a power plant is built, it would be in Alpena County and Alpena County would benefit from the taxes it would generate.

Edwin Taratuta, often a critic of using federal monies, said Consumers Power should pay for the project and charge admission for the public's use, rather than utilizing federal funds.

LaFave and Daniel Darga said that instead of promoting developments of natural areas, NEMCOG staff should be working to attract industry to Presque Isle County.

Speaking in favor of the project were commissioner Leo Goetz and County Clerk Ruth M. Doyle, who noted Presque Isle township explored the possibility of a nature area or park as long as 15 years ago.

Goetz offered the motion to adopt a resolution of endorsement. Voting with him in favor of it were Edwin Quade, and Mel Klein. Opposing it were Darga, LaFave, Taratuta, Emil Plath Jr., Frank LaBita, Adam Gryniewicz, Neil Whitsitt and Raymond Hitchcock.

Although Steinbrecher was placed in the position of defending the DNR and NEMCOG, commissioners stressed they weren't condemining Steinbrecher's work on the project.

He will appear before the DNR commission Feb. 7 to seek approval of the Parks Division as management agency for the proposed project. He said he didn't know if the board's action Friday will have a bearing on the DNR commission's decision.

THE ALPENA NEWS
January 24, 1980

# Alpena County to revise revenue sharing budget

Following a presentation by Lew Steinbrecher of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, the board endorsed a plan to seek state backing of a wilderness area in Presque Isle County, adjacent to Rockport property owned by Consumers Power Co.

Steinbrecher said access would be from Grand Lake Road, and that a lease agreement might be worked out with Consumers to make Rockport land and the sinkholes there available to the public.

Steinbrecher will be making a similar presentation before the Natural Resources Commission in February, and is seeking local support prior to that time.

This story was part of a larger article found under the above headline regarding a meeting of the Alpena County Board of Commissioners

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
January 24, 1980

# Rockport project gains support

The Full Council of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), at its meeting in Alpena on January 15, passed a resolution to officially adopt the Rockport Sinkhole Management Study as part of the Northeast Michigan's Coastal Management Program. According to Lew Steinbrecher, NEMCOG's Coastal Program, the study addresses several design and management alternatives as to nature trail development to the sinkholes and a nature interpretive center.

In October of 1979, Consumers Power Co. indicated their willingness to lease part of the Rockport property to provide public access to the sinkholes. After a review of various local and state agencies, Steinbrecher recommended the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Parks Division as possibly the most appropriate management agency to implement the Rockport Project. The recommendation did not receive unanimous support. Four council members abstained because of their disagreement with that staff recommendation.

Similar resolutions of support for the Rockport Sinkhole Study, including the recommendation of the DNR Parks Division to be the lead management agency have been passed by the Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission, the Presque Isle Township Planning Commission, the Presque Isle County Planning Commission and other local agencies.

Steinbrecher plans to make a presentation to the state's Natural Resources Commission on February 7 and formally recommend the Parks Division as lead management agency for the project at that time.

THE ALPENA NEWS
January 22, 1980

**Presque Isle Board meets Friday**

The Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners will meet Friday in its first regular monthly session of the year. Agenda items include a finance committee report by commissioner Mel Klein; a presentation by Lew Steinbrecher of Northeast Michigan Council of Governments on plans for development of a natural area at the Rockport sinkholes; a quarterly report from the District 4 Health Department; and a billing from NEMCOG. The session starts at 10 a.m. in the county courthouse in Rogers City.

A Coastal Zone Management grant of $15,600, administered through the DNR, was accepted by the council to finance planning and design of a riverfront park on the northside of Thunder Bay River behind the post office. The city will provide $3,900 toward the $19,500 cost of the plan - design project. Vilican - Leman Associates will do the design.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, January 17, 1980

# Hearing on shoreline parks in Rogers City area is well attended

Some 50 persons were on hand Monday evening to participate in a hearing at which the public had been invited to express their views on proposed shoreline park development in Rogers City.

The project constitutes an agreement between the City of Rogers City and Snell Environmental Group, a Lansing based consulting firm, to provide planning and site design on seven parcels of lakeshore property within the city limits.

The effort is a part of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management Program which provides for coordination between local units of government with state and federal agencies. The study will be funded through a federal coastal management grant and local matching funds totaling $29,209 with a completion date designated as August 31, 1980.

In substance the Snell group is to come up with a master plan for the development of each of the seven parcels. An inventory will be made of the physical features — vegetation, soils, surface water, erosion, etc., and then include public input regarding desires for activities and facilities on a site-by-site basis.

After the information has all been assembled, another public hearing will be held and eventually the final working drawings and specifications will be prepared. These will then be available to the contractor for the actual work on the development of proposed facilities.

The hearing turned out to be pretty much of a review of what most local people already knew about the physical characteristics of each parcel of lakeshore property, but it did provide those in attendance with an understanding of what the project involves.

One thing was most evident from the comments made and that was the desire of local people to keep two or three of the tracts pretty much in their natural state.

Establishing campsites in a couple of the areas was brought up but it was the general consensus that the cost of maintenance and policing would be prohibitive and further, that adequate facilities are already available at Hoeft State Park, one of the few in Michigan that is rarely filled to capacity.

The area alongside Calcite Road that is now used primarily for Little League activities got the most attention with input being provided from a group of Little League managers who pointed out the inadequacy of the present setup. "We have a program in which 300 kids participate but only two fields on which they can play," said Jack Myers.

Many possibilities exist for each of the various parcels ranging from portable fishing piers, expanded swimming beaches, picnic facilities, skating rinks, playground expansion, or just leaving the fragile areas in their present state.

Rogers City has more Lake Huron shoreland property than the four adjacent counties combined and the study will eventually prescribe what compatible uses can be made of them.

THE ALPENA NEWS
Friday, January 11, 1980

# High lake levels could cause property damage

HARRISVILLE—Recent United States Army Corps of Engineers data on lake levels shows projections for February, March and April, 1980 on Lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair, and Erie within one-half to 1 foot of the all time 1973 levels. Also, actual recorded levels continue to be from 1 to 1½ feet above the 1900-1978 average.

According to Alcona County Civil Defense Director Donald L. Williams, to whose office this information was provided by the Emergency Services Division of the Michigan State Police, the high lake levels projected could have serious impact on Lake Huron-fronted property and dwellings in Alcona County.

Williams reminds those property owners of the difficulties that existed with the 1973 lake levels when trees, septic systems, and frontage were lost and the foundations of some homes and businesses immediately threatened.

Affected property owners should explore construction and insurance alternatives before again being faced with a similar situation, Williams advised.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
Wednesday, January 9, 1980

# City to Seek Grant to Expand Turner Park

City Manager Rush Cattell and Councilman Louis LeBlanc planned today to attend a meeting in Petoskey with NEMCOG and other grant officials in attempts to get funding to expand and improve the Gordon Turner Park on North Huron Street.

Mr. Cattell told Council last night at their regular meeting that funding for the park looks very promising.

Among things proposed by Mr. Cattell to improve the park would be two ballfields, a pavillion with better bathroom facilities and more picnic area with more grills for picnicers, and playground equipment.

Mr. Cattell said he thought the grant would fund 80 percent of the project and that the City would have to pay for the other 20 percent.

He said however the City would not have to pay the 20 percent in cash money, but instead could pay part of the cost by using City labor and perhaps some of the local industries or business would help in the way of material donations or material reductions, which could all be used as part of the City's cost.

The meeting today in Petoskey is to try and find the funding available for a grant.

In a previous meeting a spokesman for NEMCOG at the Council meeting said it looked very promising for Cheboygan to receive the grant.

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PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ADVANCE
Thursday, January 3, 1980

# Coastal grant workshops to be held

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) will be holding two grant workshops for local officials on Great Lakes coastal projects. The first workshop is co-sponsored with the Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission and is scheduled for January 9, 1980 in Petoskey at the Council Chambers of the City/County Building. The second workshop is planned for Alpena on January 11, 1980 in the City Council Chambers (2nd Floor) of the Alpena City Hall. Both workshops will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Included on the agenda will be David Warner from Michigan's Coastal Management Program to discuss State and Federal requirements in submitting grant proposals, and to explain the time schedule for the granting process. Also scheduled to appear will be representative of the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission (UGLRC) to discuss the use of that program for capital improvements of coastal projects. Other State and Federal funding programs will be highlighted to inform local officials of a variety of grant opportunities to assist communities in their developing and implementing coastal opportunities.

This marks the third year local governments have been eligible to receive grants from the Michigan Coastal Management Program. Last year, Petoskey, Mackinaw City, Rogers City and Alpena were northern Michigan communities which received grants under the program. Colleges, school districts, road commissions and some non-profit organizations are also eligible applicants and are encouraged to attend the workshops. For more information contact Lew Steinbrecher, Coastal Planner, NEMCOG, P.O. Box 457, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, phone (517) 732-3551.

ALCONA COUNTY REVIEW
January 3, 1980

# NEMCOG to hold coastal workshops

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) will be holding two grant workshops for local officials on Great Lakes coastal projects. The first workshop is scheduled for January 9, 1980 in Petoskey. The second workshop is planned for Alpena on January 11, in the City Council Chambers (2nd Floor) of the Alpena City Hall. Both workshops will begin at 9:30 a.m. with registration and coffee.

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THE ALPENA NEWS
NorthEastern Michigan's Newspaper
2-A—Saturday, December 29, 1979

TODAY IN BRIEF:

# City and region

**Grand Workshop slated**

The Northeast Michigan Council on Governments will hold a grand workshop for local officials on Great Lakes coastal projects in the council chambers of Alpena City Hall Jan. 11, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with registration. This marks the third year local governments have been eligible to receive grants under the Michigan Coastal Management Program. Last year Rogers City and Alpena were recipients of funds under the program.

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NEMCOG

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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 27 DECEMBER 1979

## NEMCOG TO CONDUCT COASTAL GRANT WORKSHOP

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) will be holding two grant workshops for local officials on Great Lakes coastal projects. The first workshop is co-sponsored with the Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission, and is scheduled for January 9, 1980 in Petoskey at the Council Chambers of the City/County Building. The second workshop is planned for Alpena on January 11, 1980 in the City Council Chambers (2nd Floor) of the Alpena City Hall. Both workshops will begin at 9:30 a.m. with registration and coffee.

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THE ALPENA NEWS
December 8, 1979

# Shoreline setback rule provides protection from erosion damage

EAST LANSING—Heavy losses of property along Michigan's Great Lakes shorelines may be prevented in the future.

To reduce the damage caused by shoreline erosion, the Division of Land Resource Programs of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is implementing the Shorelands Protection and Management Act.

"The act was designed to protect private property, as well as to reduce public costs which are incurred from erosion damage, through wise management and planning," says Chuck Pistis, Michigan State University district Extension marine agent in Grand Haven.

Over the years, construction along the shoreline has often coincided with the rising and falling levels of the lakes, he explains. During periods of high water levels, people are made aware of the extensive damage which erosion can cause, but when lake levels recede, people return to building homes and other structures close to the water's edge.

Under the Shorelands Management and Protection Act, the DNR is responsible for establishing a minimum setback requirement which property owners must comply with before building on their shoreline property.

The setback requirement establishes the shortest allowable distances from a bluff line upon which a permanent structure can be built. It applies only to those areas determined to be high-risk erosion areas, or areas that suffer more than one foot of erosion per year.

To determine the rate at which a bluff along a shoreline is receding, the DNR compares aerial photographs from two time periods. From these the distance the shoreline has moved is determined and the average annual recession rate over a 30-year period is calculated to establish a setback distance that will protect a structure for at least 30 years.

In addition, the property owner is provided with a recommended setback distance calculated to provide even longer protection.

"Though the property owner does not have to comply with the recommended setback, as he must with the required one, he should take it into consideration when building on shoreline property," Pistis says.

In some situations, a parcel of land which was established before the land was designated as a high-risk erosion area does not have enough footage from the shore to allow a structure to be built upon it.

"In these cases, persons may be allowed to build a structure which can be moved before it is damaged by erosion," Pistis explains. "When this type of building is approved, it must be built as far from shore as possible and all septic systems must be located to the landward side of the building."

Building in high-risk erosion areas may also be possible if a DNR-approved public structure prevents the building from damage caused by wave action.

Pistis says manmade interferences cause little change in lake levels.

"Basically we are dealing with a natural phenomenon," he says. "Though a couple of manmade structures affect the lake levels, it has been found that they account for less than two inches of change per year."

Lake levels do not fluctuate according to a cycle but are affected by weather conditions, Pistis says. If a large amount of rain falls over a period of time, the lakes will rise; when there is less precipitation, they will drop.

Seasonal changes affect the lake levels throughout the year, though their impact is not felt immediately. In March, the lakes are relatively low, and the effects of melted snow do not become apparent until late August or early September, when the lakes are at a high level.

Pistis notes that his district, which borders the southeast shore of Lake Michigan, has experienced a great deal of erosion in recent years.

In Lake Michigan, the ordinary high water mark, which divides the state-owned bottomlands of the lakes from the shore area, is 579.8 feet above sea level. In 1964, the lake was as low as 573.35 feet. In 1974, it rose to 581.1 feet. As of September 1979, the level was 579.84 feet.

"As the lake has fluctuated, a great deal of beach area has been covered and many homes have washed into the lake," Pistis points out.

Owners of high-risk erosion property are notified by the DNR and provided with an opportunity to appeal the setback requirement. These cases are heard by the Natural Resources Commission, which is composed of citizens appointed by the governor.

The process of establishing setback requirements may be turned over to the local township zoning board, Pistis says. The restrictions of the zoning board may be more or less rigid than those of the DNR, but they must have DNR approval.

THE ALPENA NEWS
November 28, 1979

# Plan boat launching ramp at Rockport

The Deapartment of Natural Resources has applied to the Detorit District Army Corps of Engineers for permission to construct a boat launching ramp in Rockport Harbor.

The site is located 2½ miles northeast of the village of Lakewood, Alpena Township.

In its application, the DNR proposed to dredge approximately 100 cubic yards of clay in site preparation work; construct a 60 x 36-foot ramp of precast concrete planks bolted together; and place some 25 yards of riprap off the sides of the ramp for bank protection.

The Corps of Engineers has determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for the proposed project.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified (no later than 4:30 p.m. Dec. 3) that a public hearing be held to consider this application.

Those who have any objections to the proposed project can file their comments in writing to: District Engineer, Detroit District, Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 1027 Detroit 48231; or the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Land Resources Program Division, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing 48909.

THE ALPENA NEWS
November 23, 1979

# Name marine agent for northeast region

EAST LANSING—John Schwartz has been appointed district extension marine agent for northeast Michigan effective Dec. 1, pending Michigan State University Board of Trustees' approval.

The position, headquartered in the Iosco County Extension offices in Tawas City, is a Cooperative Extension Service position funded by the Federal Sea Grant Program, a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

A 1976 graduate of the University of Michigan, Schwartz will receive his master's degree in marine recreation and resource development from Texas A&M University in December.

Schwartz will assist both large and small business interests and individual property owners in water resource problems such as erosion control, coastal development, commercial and sports fishery, pollution and marina management. His district will include all of the shoreline counties from Bay through Presque Isle County.

He will become the fifth marine agent in Michigan, joining others located in South Haven, Mount Clemens, Marquette and Traverse City.

Working with specialists, researchers and administrators at MSU and the University of Michigan, Schwartz will organize and implement educational programs which will assist community and governmental officials, organizations and citizens in their understanding of marina management issues and problems.

CHEBOYGAN DAILY TRIBUNE
November 2, 1979

At Mackinaw City

# Firm Hired for Dredging to Dock Welcome

The Mackinaw City Council last night at their regular meeting hired Martin Construction to begin dredging work in preparation for docking the Welcome.

The construction firm will begin dredging operations at the Village Marina to accommodate for the ship next spring.

Gene Kapp and Ken Teysen were appointed by the Council to fill two vacancies on the Planning Commission.

They will replace Stanley Darling and Ray Desy, whose terms have expired.

Mr. Teysen and Mr. Kapp will serve for three years.

Appointed to the Planning Commission as representatives for the Council were Police Chief Robert Fullerton and Martha Dafoe. Both will be only representatives and will not be allowed to vote.

The Mackinaw City Great Turtle Arts Council will soon begin a drive in attempts to bring the Art Train to Mackinaw City next Summer.

The art train consists of several railroad cars loaded with different types of art such as painting and sculpture.

The train would come in on the D&M tracks.

The Welcome is in the Marine Area of Fort Michilimackinac where it has been under construction for several years. Launching is anticipated next summer.

The Welcome was an armed sloop serving as a British warship on the Great Lakes during the Revolutionary War. It was used to carry materials when the fort was relocated at Mackinaw City and moved to Mackinac Island.

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THE ALPENA NEWS
NorthEastern Michigan's Newspaper
1-B—Thursday, September 27, 1979

# Ancient anchor hauled from Thunder Bay

By PETE KAROLY

After three exhausting days of trying to raise a massive old anchor from the depths of Thunder Bay, Chet Olson and Merl Melton discovered one thing—it is possible to sweat under water.

It took 25 tanks of air, 11 55-gallon drums, five dives and lots of elbow grease, but the result of their labor is now resting on the corner of Chisholm and State in front of The Ski Rack.

The old anchor was discovered last week during normal sounding operations by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, Peirce. The ship, which is charting the harbor and bay, makes investigations of any unusual protuberances more than two feet off the bottom. The anchor was found buried in the rock and clay with only one fluke exposed.

When they got word of the anchor, Melton, an Air National Guardsman at Capt. Phelps Collins Field and a scuba instructor, and Olson, of C & K Lafayette Store, made plans to raise it. The pair were assisted by Olson's wife, Karne, and Dave Moulds, of 720 Ford.

The anchor, which was located about three miles out in Thunder Bay, was marked with a buoy and Melton and Olson prepared the salvage operation.

A submersible pump and 11 55-gallon drums were used to lift the anchor off the bottom of the bay. The air used by the divers was donated by The Ski Rack. Melton and Olson made two dives Saturday, two Sunday and one Monday before bringing up the anchor. It is estimated the anchor weighs between 3,000 and 3,500 pounds with 50 to 60 feet of heavy chain attached to the weight.

"We got the anchor to the surface twice, but it kept sinking," Olson said. "Once, I went to the surface and, all of a sudden, the anchor was bobbing next to me. I went back down to congratulate Merl and the anchor was back there when I got to him."

When the anchor was finally retrieved, it took a crane to get it out of the water. It is not known how old the anchor is, but Olson noted the wooden top was bolted together instead of being banded with metal, the usual method of constructing anchors in the early days.

"The anchor is in great shape," Olson said. "The wood has not rotted because it was buried in the bottom and preserved."

Another monumental task now awaits the pair: identifying the anchor. Melton said research would probably start at the Jesse Besser Museum.

"They have an anchor at the museum and they may be able to help us identify this one," Melton said. "There may be some markings or numbers on the anchor, but it will have to be sandblasted to get through the barnacles and growth on it."

With the excitement of the recovery operation over, Melton has now returned to his home in Indiana. He had been prepared to leave when word of the discovery reached him.

"I was ready to go back to Indiana, but finding the anchor was a special event and I decided to stay," Melton said. "I can guarantee you, I won't find one like this in Indiana."

**RELIC OF PAST**—I took three days of concentrated effort, but Chet Olson (left) and Merl Melton finally succeeded in bringing this massive anchor up from its resting place on the bottom of Thunder Bay. The old relic, which is now in front of The Ski Rack at 224 E. Chisholm, was descovered last week by the weather ship, Peirce, which is taking soundings of the lake bottom. (News Photo)

THE ALPENA NEWS
October 4, 1979

# Planning group to update entire county master plan

The Alpena County Plan Commission, at work this year on updating the land use portion of the county master plan, decided Wednesday night to expand the effort and update the entire master plan.

John Porter, chairman of the commission, said the group had entered into a contract with Northeast Michigan Council of Governments to review the county's land use plan.

NEMCOG supplied information on land use to the commission, but Porter said the effort had become so long and involved the commission decided to update the entire master plan instead.

Porter said the commission will terminate its contract with NEMCOG regarding the land use review and will turn its attention to the master plan drawn up, but never officially accepted, in 1968.

Porter said work on the plan will begin in 1980 and should conclude after 1980 census data becomes available. "We're talking about a two-year project," Porter said. "Once we get it done, we should have a document that would be able to guide the growth and development of the county for a good number of years."

The commission also reviewed the "areas of particular concern" in NEMCOG's coastal zone management program. The commission was asked by NEMCOG to look over 32 areas of coastal lands and to prioritize those for zone management programs.

Porter said the group prioritized all 32 and singled out five areas — the mouth of Devil's River; the mouth of Thunder Bay River; the Small Boat Harbor; the Rockport sinkholes; and Squaw Bay.

# COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS

## NEMCOG COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS - FY 1980

### October 1979

10/3 Alpena - Alpena County Courthouse
Alpena County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher attended regular monthly meeting and gave status report on the Rockport Sinkhole management study, including recent announcement by Consumers Power Company to negotiate lease arrangement for public access. (15 people)

10/12 Lansing - Stevens T. Mason Building
DNR Land Resource Programs Division - Lew Steinbrecher met with David Warner to submit year-end report and Rockport Sinkhole Management Study and discuss work program for FY 1980 Coastal contract. (2 people)

10/18 Mackinaw City and Rogers City
NEMCOG/DNR Field Inspections - Lew Steinbrecher met with Dave Warner to visit Mackinaw City property for coastal grant and discussed work elements with city officials. Met with Rogers City official in afternoon to review work program for lakefront park design project. Attended meeting of Presque Isle County Planning Commission in evening to discuss innovative zoning techniques for Lake Huron property and the Coastal Grant process. (14 people)

10/19 Rockport and City of Alpena
NEMCOG/DNR Field Inspections - Lew Steinbrecher and Dave Warner visited Rockport Sinkholes and met with Al Bakalarski, Alpena City Planner, to finalize work program on Coastal Grant for riverfront park design.

10/23 Cheboygan - Cheboygan County Building
Cheboygan County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher attended regular monthly meeting to discuss possible grant proposal for Michigan's Coastal Management Program. (13 people)

10/30 Presque Isle - Presque Isle Township Hall
Rockport Sinkhole Steering Committee - Lew Steinbrecher scheduled meeting with committee members, Township officials and representatives of Consumers Power Company where the utility announced their desire to negotiate a lease with some responsible public agency to provide public access to the Rockport Sinkholes and Ferron Point property. (15 people)

### November 1979

11/1 and 11/2 Higgins Lake - Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center
DNR/Regional Coastal Workshop - Lew Steinbrecher attended two day seminar sponsored by DNR Coastal Program Unit to review past accomplishments and new directions for the Michigan Coastal Program (approximately 30 people)

11/5 Atlanta - Canada Creek Ranch Lodge
NEMCOG's Natural Resources Advisory Committee - Lew Steinbrecher gave status report on Rockport Sinkhole project and recommended regional action on 10 APC nominations. (21 people)

NEMCOG COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS - FY 1980 continued

11/13 Traverse City - Northwest Michigan Regional Planning and Development Commission office
NEMCOG/NWMRP&DC - Lew Steinbrecher met with Larry Sullivan to discuss Coastal Grant workshops and articles for regional newsletter. (2 people)

11/27 Cheboygan - Cheboygan City Hall
Cheboygan City Council - Lew Steinbrecher met with City Council to discuss Coastal Program and grant procedures for possible proposal for Cheboygan Marsh Boardwalk Project. Considerable local interest and support expressed. (18 people)

11/28 Alpena - City Hall and Township Civic Building
City and Township Officials - Lew Steinbrecher met with Al Bakalarski to discuss Coastal grant for riverfront park project and then with D.H. Riley for possible grant proposal for Squaw Bay Recreational Development Study.

December 1979

12/4 Rogers City - Soil Conservation Service Office
Presque Isle County Soil Conservation District - Lew Steinbrecher met with District to discuss possible Coastal Grant proposal for boat launching facility in Hammond Bay and Spens Construction permit application to file coastal wetland. (9 people). Visited proposed fill area for on-site inspection.

12/10 Gaylord - NEMCOG Office
Ron Wallin visited Lew Steinbrecher and Dave Warner to discuss final work product for FY 1979 grant and revise work elements for FY 1980 Coastal grant project.

12/11 Rogers City - Jason's Gaslight Lounge
Rockport Sinkhole Steering Committee - Lew Steinbrecher and Dave Warner met with committee members and Harry Whiteley, Natural Resources Commissioner to discuss recent development in project and chart course of action for implementation. (11 people).

12/12 Douglas Lake - University of Michigan Biological Station
NEMCOG's Natural Resources Advisory Committee - Lew Steinbrecher gave status report on the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail Project and recommended regional action through passage of a resolution and new APC nomination. (26 people).

12/13 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher attended regular monthly meeting to explain grant procedures under Michigan Coastal Program. Commission nominated the Harrisville Recreation Area as an APC and expressed interest in applying for low-cost construction grant. (11 people)

NEMCOG COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS - FY 1980 continued

January 1980

1/2 Alpena - Alpena County Courthouse
Alpena County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher presented a proposal for Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point project and asked for support by passage of resolution. (16 people)

1/3 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher discussed coastal grant procedure and informed commission of possible proposal for the Harrisville Recreation Area by the Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission. (12 people).

1/9 Petoskey - City/County Building, Council Chambers
Coastal Grant Workshop - NEMCOG/NWMRP&DC sponsored workshop to discuss and explain grant process under Michigan's Coastal Program and use of other funding programs to implement coastal projects. (25 people)

1/10 Alpena - Alpena County Courthouse
Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher and Dave Warner met with Commission to discuss possible coastal grant to design the Joe LaMarre Park along the Thunder Bay River. (14 people)

1/11 Alpena - City Hall, Council Chambers
Coastal Grant Workshop - NEMCOG sponsored workshop to discuss and explain grant process under Michigan's Coastal Management Program and use of other funding programs to implement coastal projects. (19 people)

1/14 Presque Isle - Presque Isle Township Hall
Presque Isle Township Board of Trustees - Lew Steinbrecher explained Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trails concept and asked for support by passage of resolution. (31 people)

1/15 Alpena - Grove Restaurant
NEMCOG Full Council - Lew Steinbrecher explained Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trail concept and asked for support by passage of resolution. (29 people)

1/15 Presque Isle - Presque Isle Township Hall
Presque Isle Township Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher explained Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trails concept and asked for support by passage of resolution. (10 people)

1/17 Bearinger Township - Surf Park Subdivision
Spens Construction Co., Inc. - Lew Steinbrecher met with Delmer Porter to review NEMCOG objections to permit application to fill coastal wetland. Visit included another site inspection to property.

1/18 Alpena - Alpena Township Hall
Alpena Township Planning and Zoning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher presented Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trail proposal and asked for local support through passage of resolution. Also discussed Squaw Bay - Partridge Point recreational development project and township asked NEMCOG to apply for coastal grant to conduct feasibility study. (9 people).

1/23 Alpena - Ponderosa Steak House
NEMCOG's Natural Resources Advisory Committee - Lew Steinbrecher gave committee status report on the Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trail concept and recommended regional endorsement of the Harrisville Recreation Area APC nomination. (23 people)

1/23 Alpena - Alpena County Courthouse
Alpena County Board of Commissioners - Lew Steinbrecher explained Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trail concept and asked for support by passage of resolution. (about 33 people)

1/25 Rogers City - Presque Isle County Courthouse
Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners - Lew Steinbrecher explained Rockport Sinkhole and Ferron Point Nature Trail concept and asked for support by passage of resolution. The Board did not take such action. (16 people)

1/28 Lansing - Stevens T. Mason
Lew Steinbrecher met with DNR personnel from various Divisions to discuss the Rockport Sinkhole Nature Trail Project. (12 people)

February 1980

2/7 Alpena - Crow Realty Office
Lew Steinbrecher met with Les Washburn to discuss use of Michigan Land Trust Fund for public acquisition of Lake Huron property in Squaw Bay and Whitefish Bay. (2 people)

2/7 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher attended regular monthly meeting and discussed possible Coastal Management grant for the Harrisville Recreation Area. (11 people)

2/14 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher met with Commission to discuss four alternative site designs developed by MSU graduate students and use of Michigan Coastal Management Program funds to implement certain portions of planned improvements. (18 people)

2/26 Cheboygan - Cheboygan City Hall
Lew Steinbrecher met with Rush Cattell (City Manager) to discuss details of the Cheboygan Marsh/Gordon Turner Park Boardwalk project for Coastal Management Program grant proposal. (2 people)

2/26 Mackinaw City - Village Hall
Lew Steinbrecher met with Ron Wallin, Village President, to discuss progress with the FY 80 Coastal Management grant for low-cost construction at the lakefront parks. (2 people)

NEMCOG COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS - FY 1980 **continued**

March 1980

3/12 Gaylord - Northlands Sportsman's Club
NEMCOG Natural Resources Advisory Committee - Lew Steinbrecher provided NATRAC members with a report on proposals for Coastal Management Program funds. A resolution of support for the City of Alpena's Thunder Bay River Land Use and Design Study was introduced, discussed and passed. NATRAC also endorsed a new APC nomination from Cheboygan County. (21 people)

3/13 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher discussed the use of Coastal Program funds at the Harrisville Recreation Site and recommended that the commission not apply for low-cost construction funds because the proposed construction clearly did not meet the program's eligibility requirements. A brief discussion of a Harrisville Sports Fishery Economic Study and use of Coastal funding was then had. (12 people)

3/13 Harrisville - Alcona County Building, Cooperative Extension Service
Harrisville Sports Fishery Interest Group - Lew Steinbrecher met with representatives from various interests in the Great Lakes Sports Fishing Industry to discuss the possibility of applying for Coastal Management funds to conduct an economic impact study in the Harrisville area. (9 people)

3/13 Harrisville - Harrisville Fire Hall - Clerk's Office
Harrisville Harbor Commission - Lew Steinbrecher met with Commission to draft proposal to be submitted to DNR for Coastal Management Programs funds for low cost construction on land in the harbor of refuge. (9 people)

April 1980

4/2 Alpena - People's Bank & Trust
Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher met with three members of the commission to finalize the Coastal Grant proposal regarding low-cost construction of the Joe LaMarre Park along the Thunder Bay River in Alpena. (4 people)

4/3 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher met with George Byelich, Alcona County Cooperative Extension Director and Planning Commission to sponsor the Sports Fisheries Economic Impact Study for Alcona County shoreline communities.

May 1980

5/14 Alpena - Joe LaMarre Park
Alpena County Parks and Recreation Commission - Lew Steinbrecher met with Dave Warner (DNR Coastal Program) and three members of the commission for a site inspection of the LaMarre Park and discuss the low-cost construction proposal for the site. (5 people)

5/15 Rogers City - Rogers City Hall
City Manager - Lew Steinbrecher met with Dave Warner (DNR Coastal Program) and Jim Leidlein (City Manager) to discuss progress of this year's coastal project and site visits to lakefront parks to review proposed low-cost construction activities for FY 1981. (3 people)

5/15 Alpena - Congregational Church
Alpena League of Women Voters - Lew Steinbrecher met with the League to discuss the organization's support of the El Cajon Bay property land acquisition proposal to the Michigan Land Trust Fund Board. Also discussed the League's effort to produce a slide/tape presentation as a "Year of the Coast" Project. (16 people)

5/16 Mackinaw City - Village Hall
Lew Steinbrecher met with Dave Warner (DNR Coastal Program) and Ron Wallin (Village President) to discuss status of this year's low-cost construction activities and to view the launching of the "Welcome" by the Mackinaw Island State Park Commission. (3 people)

5/22 Beaugrand Township - Beaugrand Township Hall
Beaugrand Township Zoning Board - Lew Steinbrecher met with Board to review and comment on the proposed Township Zoning Ordinance. (7 people)

June 1980

No Meetings

July 1980

7/9 Cheboygan - City Hall
Cheboygan City Council - Lew Steinbrecher attended special council meeting where Chris Shafer and Hugh Sellack appeared to discuss and explain the difference between the "Environmental Area" designations in the Cheboygan Marsh area and the coastal grant proposal for construction of a boardwalk in the marsh. (10 people)

7/29 Alpena - Nickels Professional Building
Lew Steinbrecher met with Gerry Tracy to discuss El Cajon Bay property and develop slide presentation for the Michigan Land Trust Fund Board. Also visited property. (2 people)

August 1980

8/5 Lansing - Law Building
Michigan Land Trust Fund Board - Lew Steinbrecher gave a slide presentation on the El Cajon Bay land acquisition proposal to try to convince the Board to purchase the property. (About 35 people)

8/7 Harrisville - Alcona County Building
Alcona County Planning Commission - Lew Steinbrecher attended meeting to give a status report on the Sports Fisheries Economic Impact Study proposed for Coastal Program funding. (8 people)

NEMCOG COASTAL PROGRAM MEETINGS - FY 1980 concluded

8/13 Natural Resources Advisory Committee - Lew Steinbrecher gave staff report on local projects expected to be funded in FY 1981 and a slide presentation on the El Cajon Bay property and its underwater sinkholes. The committee was also taken on a field trip to the property. (21 people)

# STAFF CONTACTS

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | FY'80 CMP | Work Elements |
| 10/3 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | T-R | CMP | Alpena Co. APC's |
| 10/3 | Carol Buxtom | WWRM | T-R | CMP | Program Information |
| 10/4 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Presque Isle County | Zoning Revisions |
| 10/4 | Peg Kohring | Nature Conservancy | T-W | Sinkholes | Acquisition |
| 10/10 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | FY'80 site inspection |
| 10/12 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | FY'80 local proposals |
| 10/12 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | PC | P.I. Co. Zoning | Zoning recommendation |
| 10/15 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | T-R | CMP Funding | Site inspection |
| 10/15 | Mark Wyckoff | DNR/LRPD | T-R | P.I. Co. Zoning | Revisions/Amendments |
| 10/15 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | FY'80 Field Inspection |
| 10/17 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | T-R | CMP Proposal | Field inspections |
| 10/18 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | PC | CMP Proposal | Review proposal |
| 10/18 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | FY'80 CMP | Local projects |
| 10/18 | Chuck McKee | Rogers City | PC | CMP Proposal | Work program |
| 10/18 | Ray Alanen | P.I. Co. P.C. | PC | Zoning | Review ordinance |
| 10/19 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | FY'80 CMP | Local projects |
| 10/19 | Al Bakalarski | City of Alpena | PC | CMP Proposal | Review work scope |
| 10/22 | Mindy Koch | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Year-end report |
| 10/22 | Roger Rehberg | UGLRC | T-R | Mill Creek | UGLRC funding |
| 10/23 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | Possible lease arrangement |
| 10/23 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Zoning | Adoption of Ordinance |
| 10/23 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Interest by Consumers Power |
| 10/23 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/23 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena L.W.V. | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/23 | Harry Whiteley | NRC | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/24 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | Nature trails |
| 10/24 | Bob Allen | Presque Isle Corp. | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/24 | Rane Curl | Michigan Speological Soc. | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | Report and Meeting |
| 10/24 | George Lintz | P.I. Twp. P.C. | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/24 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | T-T | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/26 | Bob Allen | Presque Isle Corp. | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 10/30 |
| 10/29 | Peg Kohring | Nature Conservancy | T-R | Sinkholes | Purchase or Mystery Valley |
| 10/30 | Irv Kuehner | DNR-Geologist | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | possible lease with Consumers |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11/1 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | FY 80 Work Program |
| 11/1 | Chris Shafer | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | Workshop |
| 11/2 | Mindy Koch | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | P.I. Twp. proposal |
| 11/5 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power | PC | Rockport | Comments on Study |
| 11/5 | George Lintz | P.I. Twp. P.C. | PC | CMP | P.I. Twp. CMP Proposal |
| 11/5 | John Moeller | U.S. Steel | PC | P.I. Co. Zoning | Zone District for U.S. Steel Property |
| 11/5 | Mindy Koch | DNR/LRPD | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | NATRAC Resolution |
| 11/6 | Dorris Doutt | League of Women Voters | T-R | El Cajon Bay Sinkholes | Land Trust Fund Application |
| 11/7 | Ray Alanen | P.I. Co. P.C. | T-R | P.I. Co. Zoning | Revisions |
| 11/7 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | T-W | P.I. Co. Zoning | Revisions |
| 11/7 | Chuck Volz | DNR Forester-Alpena | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | Nature trail development |
| 11/8 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | T-R | P.I. Co. Zoning | Need for revisions |
| 11/8 | John Moeller | U.S. Steel | T-W | P.I. Co. Zoning | Mineral Resource District |
| 11/9 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-R | CMP | Plan for Workshop |
| 11/9 | Chuck Volz | DNR Forester | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | Involvement in Study |
| 11/13 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | PC | CMP | Workshops |
| 11/13 | Mindy Koch | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | FY 80 Workshop |
| 11/13 | Ruth Ogawa | Watershed Council | T-R | Wetlands | Zoning Ordinance |
| 11/14 | Harry Whiteley | NR Commissioner | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Meeting 12/11/79 |
| 11/14 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-T | CMP | FY 81 Proposal |
| 11/14 | Charles Heilman | Citizen | T-R | Historic Preservation | Purchase of old schooner |
| 11/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Rockport and Contract |
| 11/14 | Senator M. Irwin | State Senator | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | Support |
| 11/14 | Steve Andrews | State Representative | L-S | Rockport Sinkholes | Support |
| 11/19 | Jack Houghton | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP | Harrisville Park Property |
| 11/19 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Project Proposals |
| 11/19 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supv. | T-W | CMP | FY 81 Project Proposal |
| 11/20 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Zoning | Presque Isle Co. |
| 11/20 | Mark Wycoff | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Zoning | Presque Isle Co. |
| 11/20 | Tom Tolland | WHSB Radio | T-R | Rockport | Nature Center Concept |
| 11/26 | Mike Kavanaugh | Cheb. Co. P.C. | T-R | SUP's & PUD's | Different through Zoning |
| 11/26 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP | Petoskey Workshop |
| 11/26 | Fred Becker | Alcona Co. Rd. Comm. | T-W | CMP | Road ends proposal |
| 11/26 | Ray Alanen | Presque Isle Co. P.C. | T-W | Zoning | Revisions to Ordinance |
| 11/26 | Bob Allen | Ossineke Twp. Trustee | T-R | US-23 | Alternatives |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11/26 | Howard Anderson | CPS | T-W | Alpena Twp. | Zoning at Rockport |
| 11/27 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Cheboygan Project |
| 11/27 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | T-W | CMP | Thunder Bay River Project |
| 11/28 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | PC | Thunder Bay River | Property Ownership |
| 11/28 | Howard Anderson | CPS | PC | Alpena Twp. Zoning | No environmental regulations |
| 11/28 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | PC | CMP | Squaw Bay Proposal |
| 11/28 | Chuck McKee | Rogers City Mgr. | PC | CMP | Rogers City Project |
| 11/28 | Ray Alanen | P.I. Co. P.C. | PC | Presque Isle Zoning | Revisions |
| 11/28 | Mark Wyckoff | DNR/LRPD | PC | Presque Isle Zoning | Needed revisions |
| 11/28 | Dick Long | Coop. Ext. Service | PC | P.I. Zoning | Needed revisions |
| 11/29 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP | January Workshop |
| 11/29 | Denny Vitton | DNR-Forest Mgt. | T-W | Rockport | Division's interest |
| 11/30 | Bob Allen | Presque Isle Corp. | T-R | Rockport | Meeting in December |
| 11/30 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Coastal Wetlands | Fill permit application |
| 11/30 | Carla Campbell | Presque Isle SCS | T-W | Zoning Ordinance | Agricultural District |
| 12/3 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport | Sinkhole meeting |
| 12/3 | Perry Hewitt | Senator Irwin's office | T-W | Rockport | Sinkhole project |
| 12/3 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-T | CMP | Cheboygan Marsh |
| 12/3 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power | T-T | Rockport | Sinkhole project |
| 12/3 | Randy Essenroder | Thunder Bay Audubon | T-W | Rockport | Sinkhole project |
| 12/3 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | T-R | CMP | Appointment with DNR |
| 12/4 | Herm Vogler | P.I. Co. SCD | PC | P.I. Co. Zoning | Agricultural lands |
| 12/4 | Dick Long | P.I. Co. CES | PC | P.I. Co. Zoning | Agricultural lands |
| 12/4 | Harold Bauman | P.I. Co. Zoning Administrator | PC | P.I. Co. Zoning | Redistricting |
| 12/4 | Bob Peltz | County Park Caretaker | PC | Presque Isle Park | Restoration of lighthouse |
| 12/4 | Louis King | U.S.F.W.S. | PC | Surf Park Plat | Filling in of Coastal wetland |
| 12/4 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | T-T | Rockport | Meeting on 12/11 |
| 12/4 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | T-R | Greenbelts | Preservation |
| 12/5 | Willard Schaedig | P.I. Co. Parks Comm. | T-W | CMP | Grant for County Park |
| 12/5 | Denny Vitton | DNR/Forest Mgt. | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Division's position |
| 12/6 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Site inspections & Rockport |
| 12/6 | Ray Rustum | MUCC | T-R | Coastal Wetland | Permit application to fill |
| 12/7 | Roger Rehberg | UGLRC | PC | EDA | OEDP revisions |
| 12/7 | John Collis | U.S. Army C.O.E. | T-R | Cheboygan Harbor | Dredge proposal for 1980 |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12/10 | John Collis | U.S. Army C.O.E. | T-T | Cheboygan Harbor | Send copy of E.I.S. |
| 12/10 | Ray Alanen | P.T. Co. P.C. | T-W | Coastal Wetland | Permit applicatio to fill |
| 12/10 | Fred Becker | Alcona Co. Rd. Comm. | T-W | CMP | Agenda for 1/15/80 meeting |
| 12/10 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | PC | CMP | Coastal grant for boardwalk |
| 12/10 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | Coastal Wetland | Permit to fill at Surf Park Sub. |
| 12/10 | Chuck McKee | Rogers City Mgr. | PC | CMP | R.C. coastal park system project |
| 12/11 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Field trip to sin holes |
| 12/11 | Harry Whiteley | Natural Resources Comm. | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Lead management agency |
| 12/11 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Color slides of area |
| 12/11 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon Society | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Presentation to NRC |
| 12/11 | Kathy Pelleran | Sen. Irwin's Ofc. | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Help from Senator |
| 12/11 | Chuck Volz | DNR-Forest Mgt. | PC | Rockport Sinkholes | Adjacent state land |
| 12/12 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Change date of January worksho |
| 12/12 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP Workshop | Change date |
| 12/12 | Jack Houghton | Alcona Parks & Rec. Commission | T-W | CMP FY 81 Proposal | Meeting confirmed |
| 12/13 | Fred Becker | Alcona Co. Rd. Comm. | T-W | CMP FY 81 Proposal | Attend 1/15/80 meeting |
| 12/13 | Carla Campbell | P.I. Co. SCS | T-W | P.I. Co. Zoning | Agricultural lands |
| 12/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Local workshops |
| 12/14 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | T-W | CMP Workshop | Alpena on Jan. 11 |
| 12/14 | Roger Rehberg | UGLRC | T-Local | CMP Workshop | Attend Jan. worksho |
| 12/14 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP Workshop | Get Bill Smith fr m UGLRC |
| 12/17 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power | PC | Rockport | Sinkhole lease |
| 12/18 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | PC | CMP Workshops | Announcement & Agenda |
| 12/18 | Jack Collis | U.S. Army C.O.E. | L-S | Cheboygan Harbor | Proposed dredging |
| 12/18 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | PC | CMP | Alpena Workshop |
| 12/18 | John Schwartz | NE Mi. Marine Agent | L-S | Sea Grant | Alpena Workshop |
| 12/19 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Workshops & Rockport |
| 12/19 | Bob Allen | P.I. Corporation | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | NRC Presentation |
| 12/19 | Chris Duncan | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CEIP | Rockport |
| 12/20 | Howard Anderson | CPS | T-R | Act 116 | Info. for townshi |
| 12/21 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power | T-R | Rockport | Extra copies of Report |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12/21 | Jim Hane | DNR/Parks | T-R | Rockport | Interpretive center |
| 12/21 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport | Interpretive center |
| 12/26 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | PC | CMP | Workshops & newsletter |
| 12/27 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Request for Proposals | Mailing list needed |
| 12/27 | Barb Stantamore | Alpena Bd. of Commissioners | T-W | Rockport | January agenda |
| 12/27 | Mike Kessler | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Rockport | Wilderness & Natural Area |
| 12/28 | Mike Kent | WWRM-Radio | T-R | CMP | Upcoming grant workshops |
| 12/28 | Chuck McKee | Rogers City Mgr. | T-R | CMP | Attend Alpena workshop |
| 12/28 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power | L-S | Rockport Study | 4 copies of 2nd edition |
| | | JANUARY 1980 | | | |
| 1/2 | Rodney Cob | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Avery Twp. | Zoning Ordinance |
| 1/2 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | T-W | Rockport | Resolution of Support |
| 1/2 | Ruth Doyle | P.I. Co. Clerk | T-W | Rockport Study | Board of Commissioners |
| 1/2 | George Lintz | P.I. Twp. P.C. | T-W | Rockport Study | Resolution of Support |
| 1/2 | Tom Freeman | Monroe Co. P.C. Staff | T-T | Coastal Program | Coastal efforts by County P.C. |
| 1/2 | Barb Stantamore | Alpena Co. Clerk | T-R | Rockport Study | Address County Commissioners |
| 1/2 | Robin Spencer | P.I. Twp. Clerk | T-R | Rockport Study | Agenda for Twp. Board Meeting |
| 1/3 | Carl Stamm | Huron Pines RC&D | T-R | CMP | Action Measure Proposal |
| 1/3 | Mike Barnett | P.I. Twp. Supr. | L-S | Rockport Study | Resolution of Support |
| 1/3 | Dave Rommelman | Granger Engineering | T-R | CMP | Grant workshop in Alpena |
| 1/3 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Company | PC | Rockport Study | Copies of report |
| 1/3 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&R Commission | T-W | CMP | Grant proposal |
| 1/3 | Mike Kessler | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport Study | Comments on report |
| 1/3 | John Robertson | NRC Secretary | T-W | NRC Meeting | February agenda |
| 1/3 | Jack Houghton | Alcona Co. P&RC | PC | CMP | Harrisville Recreation Area |
| 1/4 | Ella Dalwitz | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP Workshop | Harrisville Recreation Area Proj. |
| 1/4 | Carl Stamm | Huron Pines RC&D | PC | CMP | Action Measure Proposals-15 |
| 1/4 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Workshops |
| 1/7 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-R | CMP | Petoskey workshop |
| 1/7 | John Robertson | NRC Secretary | L-S | Rockport Study | Copy for each NR Commissioners |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/7 | Steve Swan | DNR Fisheries | T-L | Rockport | Fish planting at harbor |
| 1/7 | Randy Eshenroder | DNR-Great Lakes Fisheries | T-W | Rockport Harbor | Fish planting program |
| 1/7 | Don Williams | Alcona Co. Coordinator | T-R | CMP-APC | Harrisville recreation area |
| 1/7 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon Society | T-W | Rockport | Resolution of Support |
| 1/8 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Workshops this week |
| 1/8 | Bob Reszka | DNR-Geologist | T-W | Rockport | Abandoned quarry |
| 1/8 | Phil Becker | Granger Engineering Cadillac | T-R | CMP | Petoskey Workshop |
| 1/9 | Dave Warner | LRPD/DNR | PC | CMP | Coastal grant workshop |
| 1/9 | Chuck McKee | Rogers City Mgr. | PC | CMP | Coastal grant workshop |
| 1/9 | Jim Leidlein | New Rogers City Mgr. | PC | CMP | Coastal grant workshop |
| 1/9 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City Pres. | PC | CMP | Coastal grant workshop |
| 1/9 | Rush Cattell | Cheboygan City Mgr. | PC | CMP Workshop | Grant proposal |
| 1/9 | Louis LeBlanc | Cheboygan City Councilman | PC | CMP Workshop | Grant proposal |
| 1/9 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | PC | CMP | Petoskey Workshop |
| 1/9 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&RC | TR | P&RC Meeting | Rockport and LaMarre Park |
| 1/9 | Sen. Mitch Irwin | State Senator | T-W | Rockport | Support for proposal |
| 1/9 | Kathy Pellergn | Senate Aide | T-W | Rockport | Inquiry to DNR=Parks |
| 1/10 | Matt Linke | Jesse Besser Museum | T-R | CMP | Alpena Workshop |
| 1/10 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&RC | PC | CMP | Grant proposal |
| 1/11 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | Alpena grant workshop |
| 1/11 | Bill Jackson | WBKB-TV | PC | CMP Workshop | TV interview |
| 1/11 | John Swartz | Marine Agent | PC | CMP Sea Grant | Alpena Workshop |
| 1/11 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | PC | CMP | Alpena Workshop |
| 1/11 | Del Porter | Spens Construction | T-R | Coastal Wetland | Proposed filling |
| 1/14 | Mike Barnett | P.I. Twp. Supr. | PC | Rockport | Township support |
| 1/14 | Russ Moore | P.I. Twp. P.C. | PC | Rockport | Local support |
| 1/14 | Ella Dalwitz | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-R | Harrisville Rec. Area | Coastal Grant Proposal |
| 1/15 | Jim McGuire | P.I. Twp. P.C. Chairman | PC | Rockport Study | Resolution of Support |
| 1/16 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport Study | NRC Presentation |
| 1/16 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | T-W | Greenbelt | Tonight's presentation |
| 1/16 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport Study | Departmental Meeting |
| 1/16 | Harry Whiteley | Natural Resources Commission | T-W | Rockport Study | Concerns of Parks Division |
| 1/16 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon Society | T-W | Rockport Study | Departmental Meeting |
| 1/16 | Irv Kuehner | DNR Geologist | T-W | Rockport Sinkholes | Departmental Meeting |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/16 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-R | CMP Workshop | Petoskey attendance list |
| 1/16 | Agnus Filpur | Alpena League Women Voters | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Letter of Support |
| 1/17 | Del Porter | Spens Construction | PC | Coastal Wet-lands | U.S. Army Corp of Engineers |
| 1/17 | Ray Alanen | P.I. Co. P.C. | PC | Rockport | Resolution of Support |
| 1/18 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | PC | Rockport & Squaw Bay | Project proposal |
| 1/21 | Harry Whiteley | NRC | T-W | Rockport | News article |
| 1/21 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Rockport | Divisional meeting |
| 1/22 | Dan Darga | P.I. Co. Bd. of Commissioners | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | County support for project |
| 1/22 | Jack Butterfield | DNR/Parks | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | Meeting in Lansing |
| 1/22 | Barb Stantamore | Alpena Co. Bd. of Commissioners | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | Preserntation before Board |
| 1/22 | Jim Bartel | Commonwealth Assoc. | T-W | Rockport | Doing study for Consumers Power |
| 1/23 | Casey Cohen | Alpena Chamber of Commerce | PC | El Cajon Bay | Property for sale again |
| 1/23 | Gerry Tracy | Nickel Realty | PC | El Cajon Bay | Property for sale now |
| 1/24 | Mel Klein | P.I. Co. Commis-sioner | T-R | Rockport | Presentation to Board |
| 1/24 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Rockport | Meeting on Monday |
| 1/24 | Ed Hagen | DNR | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 1/24 | Perry Hewitt | Sen. Irwin's ofc. | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 1/25 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon Society | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | Meeting in Lansing |
| 1/25 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | T-R | Whitefish Bay | Recreation swimming beach |
| 1/25 | Susan Grulke | Alpena News reporter | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | P.I. Board of Com-missioners |
| 1/28 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Meeting with DNR |
| 1/28 | Jack Butterfield | DNR Parks Div. | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Possible State Park |
| 1/28 | Chris Shafer | DNR/LRPD | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Coastal Program funding |
| 1/28 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Coastal Program funding |
| 1/28 | Bill Pierce | DNR-Recreational Section | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Construction cost estimates |
| 1/29 | Rush Cattell | Cheboygan City Mgr. | T-R | CMP | Grant proposal |
| 1/29 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon | T-R | Rockport Sink-holes | Possible field trip in spring |
| 1/29 | Mitch Irwin | State Senator | L-R | Rockport Sink-holes | Letter of support for project |
| 1/29 | Harry Whiteley | NRC | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | NRC Presentation |
| 1/29 | John Robertson | NRC Secretary | T-W | Rockport Sink-holes | Off NRC agenda |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/29 | Hugh Selleck | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Act 245 | Environmental areas |
| 1/29 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Rockport Sink-holes | No NRC Presentation |
| 1/30 | Neil Whitsitt | P.I. Co. Bd. of Commissioners | L-S | Rockport Sink-holes | Nature Trail proposal |
| 1/30 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | L-S | Rockport Sink-holes | Nature Trail project |
| 1/30 | Willard Schaedig | P.I. Co. Rd. Comm. | L-S | CMP-Grant | 40 Mile Pt. Lighthouse Park |
| 2/1 | Lee Washburn | Crow Realty | T-R | Recreation land | Whitefish Bay |
| 2/1 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | T-R | CMP | Coastal grant contract |
| 2/1 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-R | CMP | Shorelander |
| 2/4 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | Mackinaw City | Grant proposal revision |
| 2/4 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund application |
| 2/4 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | T-T | CMP grant | Low-cost construction budget |
| 2/7 | Larry Sullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP | Articles for Shorelander |
| 2/7 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-R | CMP | Grant Proposals |
| 2/7 | Lee Washburn | Crow Realty | PC | Land Trust Fund | Whitefish Bay proposal |
| 2/12 | Mike Moore | DNR-Forest Mgt. Div. | T-W | Land Trust Fund | El Cajon Bay proposal |
| 2/14 | Ella Dalwitz | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP Grant | Harrisville Rec. Area |
| 2/14 | Larry wullivan | NWMRP&DC | T-T | CMP | Shorelander articles |
| 2/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP Grant | Local proposals from Northeast |
| 2/14 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | Mi. Land Trust Fund. |
| 2/15 | John Greskowiak | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-R | CMP Grant | Harrisville Rec. Area |
| 2/19 | Howard Anderson | CPS | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Alpena Twp. Zoning of property |
| 2/19 | Gerry Tracy | Nichels Real Estate | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Utilities at property |
| 2/19 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Review of FY 81 proposals |
| 2/20 | Bob Allen | Presque Isle Corp. | L-R | Rockport Sink-holes | Mi. Land Trust Fund |
| 2/20 | John Grzeskowiak | Alcona Co. P&RC | L-S | CMP Grant Proposal | Harrisville Rec. Area |
| 2/20 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-R | CMP Grant | Review proposal |
| 2/25 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-T | CMP & LAWCON | In town tomorrow-Review proposal |
| 2/26 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP Proposal | LaMarre Park |
| 2/27 | Dick Dahlquist | Consumers Power Co. | PC | Rockport Sink-holes | Withdrew lease offer |
| 2/28 | Fran Babcock | Mackinaw City Marine Rec. | T-T | National Register | Historic APC nomination |
| 2/29 | Bob Riecks | Alpena Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP Grant Proposal | Joe LaMarre Park |
| 2/29 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Harrisville Rec. Area |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2/29 | Chris Duncan | DNR-LRPD | T-W | CEIP | D&M Railroad-Coal |
| 2/29 | Walter Therber | Commonwealth Assoc. | T-R | Rockport | Presque Isle Twp. |
| 3/3 | Jim Beers | DNR/Rec. Services | T-W | Low cost construction | 1980 Const. cost summary |
| 3/3 | Walter O'Donnell | Bay City State Park | T-W | Boardwalks | Cost estimates |
| 3/3 | Bob Helmic | DNR-Parks | T-W | Boardwalks | Tawas Pt. work |
| 3/3 | Dave Ditts | DNR-Reg. Parks Supr. | T-W | Boardwalks | Cost estimates |
| 3/3 | Bill Kusey | DNR-Reg. Parks | T-R | Boardwalks | Cost estimates & drawings |
| 3/3 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-R | Boardwalks & APC | Cost estimates & Marine Recording Station |
| 3/4 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-R | CMP Grant Proposal | Boardwalk cost estimates |
| 3/5 | Nate Badder | Alpena Co. P.C. | PC | CMP | Grant Proposals |
| 3/6 | Tyrone Black | DNR Geologist | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund Proposal |
| 3/10 | George Byelich | Alcona Co. Ext. Serv. | T-R | CMP Grant | Harrisville Fishing Study |
| 3/10 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-W | CMP | Review of Proposals |
| 3/10 | Rush Cattell | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-T | Cheboygan Marsh | CMP Project Proposal |
| 3/10 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | T-R | CMP Proposal | Thunder Bay River Land Use Study |
| 3/11 | Bill Reid | Consumers Power | T-W | Rockport | Sinkhole Native Trail |
| 3/12 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund proposal |
| 3/12 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | PC | Thunder Bay River | CMP Grant Proposal |
| 3/12 | Tom Freeman | Johnson & Anderson | T-R | Great Lakes Island | Management Study |
| 3/12 | Tyrone Black | DNR Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund Proposal |
| 3/12 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-R | CMP Grant | Review proposals |
| 3/12 | John Grzeskowiak | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-W | CMP Grant | Proposal |
| 3/12 | Jim Wicks | DNR-Recreation | T-W | ORV | State's plan |
| 3/19 | Hugh Selleck | DNR-LRPD | T-R | Act 245 | EA's in Cheboygan |
| 3/19 | Tom Carroll | Harrisville Harbor Commission | T-W | CMP | Grant Proposal |
| 3/19 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena P&RC | T-W | CMP | Grant Proposal |
| 3/24 | George Byelich | Alcona C.E.S. Agent | T-R | CMP Grant | Harrisville Economic Study |
| 3/24 | Jim Leidlein | Rogers City Mgr. | T-W | CMP Grant | Regional review of Proposal |
| 3/24 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City Pres. | T-T | CMP Grant | Project Proposal |
| 3/24 | Jim Hane | DNR Parks Div. | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 3/24 | George Byelich | Alcona Co. CES | T-R | CMP Grant | Harrisville Proposal |
| 3/25 | Bob Reicks | Alpena Co. P&RC | T-R | CMP Grant | Joe LaMarre Park Proposal |
| 3/25 | Hugh Selleck | DNR-Shoreland | T-W | Act 245 | "EA" designations |
| 3/25 | Dave Warner | DNR-LRPD | T-R | CMP | Review of local project proposals |
| 3/25 | Dick Sella | Harrisville Harbor Commission | T-W | CMP Proposal | Low-cost construction |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3/27 | George Byelich | Alcona Co. C.E.S. | PC | CMP Proposal | Sports Fisheries Economic Impact Study |
| 3/27 | John Schwartz | N.E. MI. Sea Grant Agent | PC | CMP Proposal | Sports Fisheries Economic Impact Study |
| 3/27 | Dick Sella | Harrisville Harbor Commission | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Harrisville Harbor Project |
| 3/28 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City Pres. | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Low cost construction |
| 3/31 | Tyrone Black | DNR Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 3/31 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena L.W.V. | T-R | El Cajon Bay | League Support for Proposal |
| 3/31 | Jack Houghton | Alcona Co. P&RC | T-W | Sports Fishery Study | CMP Grant Proposal |
| 4/1 | Gerry Tracy | Nickles Real Estate | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Field trip |
| 4/1 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | T-R | CMP Proposal | Partridge Point Acquisition |
| 4/1 | Dick Moreau | Alpena Community College | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/2 | Steve Andrews | State Representative | L-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/2 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/2 | Jim Leidlein | Rogers City Mgr. | T-R | NATRAC | Presentation to Committee |
| 4/2 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/2 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | PC | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/3 | George Byelich | Coop. Ext. Service | T-R | CMP Grant Proposal | Harrisville Sports Fisheries |
| 4/3 | Dick Sella | Harrisville Harbor Commission | T-W | CMP Grant Proposal | Low-cost construction |
| 4/3 | Mike Moore | DNR-Forest Mgt. Div. | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund |
| 4/3 | George Byelich | Alcona Coop. Ext. | PC | CMP Proposal | Sports Fisheries Study |
| 4/3 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&RC | PC | CMP Proposal | LaMarre Park |
| 4/3 | John Grzeskowiak | Alcona Co. P.C. | PC | CMP Proposal | Sports Fisheries Study |
| 4/10 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Lower asking price |
| 4/10 | Perry Hewitt | Sen. Irwin's Aide | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Trust Fund Proposal |
| 4/11 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Possible alternative |
| 4/14 | Jim Ribbens | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP Grant | Mill Creek Site-MISPC |
| 4/14 | Tyrone Black | DNR Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Aerial photographs of property |
| 4/15 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena L.W.V. | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Canceled field trip |
| 4/15 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Review local proposal |
| 4/29 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Tenative trip to Region |
| 5/5 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Finalize trip to Region |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5/6 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena L.W.V. | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Meeting on May 15 |
| 5/9 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Finalize itinerary |
| 5/9 | John Porter | Alpena Co. P.C. | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Status Report |
| 5/12 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | T-R | CMP | Meeting on 5/14/80 |
| 5/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | Various site inspections |
| 5/14 | Joe LaMarre | Alpena Co. P&RC | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Low-cost construction |
| 5/14 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Thunder Bay River Study |
| 5/15 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP Proposals | Site Inspections |
| 5/15 | Jim Leidlein | Rogers City Mgr. | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Low-cost construction |
| 5/15 | George Paris | Lighthouse keeper Alpena L.W.V. | PC | Old Presque Isle Lighthouse | APC Review |
| 5/15 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena L.W.V. | PC | El Cajon Bay | Land Acquisition Proposal |
| 5/15 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | Land Acquisition Proposal |
| 5/16 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City Pres. | PC | CMP Grant Proposal | Site Inspection |
| 5/16 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | CMP | Launch of WELCOME |
| 5/19 | Perry Hewitt | Sen. Irwin's Aide | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Land Acquisition Proposal |
| 6/23 | Steve Wright | Cheb. City Mgr. | T-T | CMP Grant | Cheb. Marsh Boardwalk |
| 6/24 | Helen LaTarte | P.I. Co. Resident | T-R | Rockport Sinkholes | Send copy of report |
| 6/24 | Jim Ribbens | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Johnson's Island | Never heard of it |
| 7/2 | Ed Hagen | DNR/MLTF | T-W | El Cajon Sinkholes | August presentation |
| 7/2 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | El Cajon Bay |
| 7/3 | Hugh Selleck | DNR/LRPD | T-R | Environmental Areas | Designations in Cheboygan |
| 7/3 | Steve Wright | Cheboygan City Mgr. | T-SW | CMP & Act 245 | Meeting of 7/9/80 |
| 7/8 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City Pres. | PC | CMP grant | Review proposal |
| 7/11 | Tom Freeman | Johnson & Anderson | T-R | Island Mgt. | Info on nature islands |
| 7/11 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena League WV | T-W | El Cajon Bay | League supported proposal |
| 7/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Local grants |
| 7/15 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-W | MLTF | El Cajon Bay Proposal |
| 7/16 | Don Williams | Alcona Co. Coord. | T-W | Alcona Co. P.C. | Sports Fisheries Study |
| 7/17 | Ed Hagen | DNR/MLTF | T-R | El Cajon Bay Proposal | 5 August presentation |
| 7/21 | Ed Hagen | NDR/MLTF | L-R | El Cajon Bay Proposal | 5 August presentation |
| 7/24 | Irv Kuehner | DNR Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay Proposal | 5 August presentation |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7/24 | Ty Black | DNR-Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay Proposal | Slides of property |
| 7/28 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Local proposals |
| 7/29 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay Proposal | Strategy meeting |
| 7/29 | Dorris Doutt | Alpena LWV | PC | Year of Coast | Coastal slides |
| 7/30 | Irv Kuehner | DNR Geologist | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Strategy meeting |
| 7/30 | Ty Black | DNR Geologist | L-R | El Cajon Bay | Slides of property |
| 7/30 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 7/30 | Hugh Selleck | DNR/LRPD | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Info on property |
| 7/30 | Perry Hewitt | Sen. Irwin's Aide | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Strategy meeting |
| 7/30 | D.H. Riley | Alpena Twp. Supr. | T-W | NATRAC | 8/13/80 meeting at Hall |
| 7/31 | Jerry Thiede | DNR/Forest Mgt. | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Strategy meeting |
| 8/4 | Irv Kuehner | DNR/Geologist | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/4 | Larry Lemanski | Great Lakes Camp & Trail | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/4 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/4 | Jerry Thiede | DNR/Forest Div. | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/5 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/5 | Perry Hewitt | Sen. Irwin's office | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/5 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Presentation |
| 8/5 | Tom Smith | DNR/LRPD | PC | Zoning review | Beaugrand Twp. |
| 8/5 | Bruce Andrews | DNR-Law Div. | PC | P.A. 184 of 1980 | Thunder Bay Shipwrecks |
| 8/6 | Larry Lemanski | Great Lakes Camp & Trail | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Publicity |
| 8/7 | George Byelich | Alcona C.E.S. | T-R | CMP grant proposal | Sports Fisheries Study |
| 8/7 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-W | El Cajon Bay | MLTF proposal |
| 8/7 | Susan Grulke | Alpena News | T-W | El Cajon Bay | NATRAC Meeting |
| 8/7 | Gill Jackson | WBKB-TV | T-W | El Cajon Bay | NATRAC Meeting |
| 8/7 | O.B. Eustis | Thunder Bay Audubon Society | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Tour of property |
| 8/7 | Dennis Badem | Jesse Besser Museum | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Tour of property |
| 8/8 | Glen Shepard | North Woods Call | T-SW | El Cajon Bay | Article on property |
| 8/11 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Year end report |
| 8/11 | Charlie Johnson | Beaugrand Twp. | T-SW | Zoning | Comments on ordinance |
| 8/11 | John Swartz | Sea Grant | T-W | Shipwrecks | Underwater preserve |
| 8/11 | Al Bakalarski | Alpena City Planner | T-W | Shipwrecks | Meeting at City Hall |
| 8/11 | Don Elgas | Ski Rack | T-W | Shipwrecks | Underwater park concept |
| 8/11 | Gerry Tracey | Nickels Real Estate | T-R | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/11 | Ty Black | DNR Geologist | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/11 | Ken Hoffmaster | Property owner | PC | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/11 | Glen Shepard | North Woods Call | T-R | El Cajon Bay | Article on property |
| 8/12 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | T-R | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/12 | Bob Haltiner | Jesse Besser Museum | T-W | El Cajon Bay | History of name |
| 8/12 | Ann Taber | Local historian | T-W | El Cajon Bay | History of name |
| 8/12 | Glen Shepard | North Woods Call | T-SW | El Cajon Bay | History of name |
| 8/13 | Gerry Tracy | Nickels Real Estate | PC | El Cajon Bay | NATRAC meeting |
| 8/13 | Ann Taber | Local historian | PC | El Cajon Bay | History of property |

| Date | Person Contacted | Affiliation | Mode | Subject | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8/14 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-R | CMP | Local Projects |
| 8/14 | Ed Hagen | MLTF Board | T-W | El Cajon Bay | Asking price lowered |
| 8/14 | Rane Curl | U. of M. Professor | T-SW | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/14 | Ron Wallin | Mackinaw City | PC | CMP Grant | Low-cost construction |
| 8/15 | Tom Woiwode | Nature Conservancy | T-R | El Cajon Bay | MLTF Proposal |
| 8/15 | Bruce Maxwell | Alpena News | T-W | El Cajon Bay | News article |
| 8/15 | Dave Warner | DNR/LRPD | T-W | CMP | Alcona Co. Fisheries Study |
| 8/15 | Eric Sharp | Detroit Magazine | T-SW | El Cajon Bay | Possible story |
| 8/15 | Marge Schnell | League of W.V. | T-R | CMP | Specific areas of interest |
| 8/15 | Larry Losinski | Alpena Health Dept. | PC | El Cajon Bay | Development could occur |

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