Introduction

The LENOWISCO Planning District includes Lee, Scott and Wise counties, the City of Norton, and the Town of Pennington Gap. Located in far southwestern Virginia, it is bordered by Tennessee to the south and Kentucky to the west. The mountainous land is a beautiful setting for living and recreation. Coal, natural gas, forestry and agriculture provide the economic base for this region's 94,500 residents.

Natural beauty is abundant here and can be enjoyed in many public recreational areas, parks and forests. For instance, the 1,700-acre Cumberland Gap National Historic Park in Lee County offers camping, picnicking, interpretive displays, hiking and nature study opportunities. There are 82,187 acres of USDA Forest Service land in the region that provide opportunities for developed, as well as dispersed, outdoor recreation. One lake, the North Fork of the Pound reservoir, provides for power boating and sailing. Rivers and streams in the region support fishing, canoeing and other water-based recreational activities. Horseback riding, hiking and bicycling trails crisscross the national forest lands offering visitors access to breathtaking scenic vistas and remote mountain hideaways. The Guest River, from the Route 72 bridge to its confluence with the Clinch River, is a state Scenic River. The Clinch River in Scott County provides high quality recreation and scenic value to the region.

Wilderness Road State Park provides visitors to the area with information on regional attractions and points of interest. The park also offers picnicking, trails and open play areas. A visitor center and a reproduction colonial-era fort, called Martin's Station, provide outstanding opportunities for visitors to learn about the early settlement of the region and the story of the migration of settlers through the Cumberland Gap on the Wilderness Road. The abandoned section of railroad right-of-way that runs through the park is being developed into a trail that will connect local communities with the park and with Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. The trail has been named the Wilderness Road Trail, and it is part of the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail that passes through the Cumberland Gap on its way to Kentucky.

Recommendations applicable to all regions are found in chapters III through IX. To meet needs established in the 2007 *Virginia Outdoors Plan* (*VOP*), it is important to integrate these recommendations with those that follow for Region 1 into regional and local planning and development strategies.

Outdoor recreation

For a general discussion of outdoor recreation trends, issues and planning considerations in Virginia, see Chapter II: Outdoor Recreation Issues, Trends and Survey Findings, and Chapter VII: Outdoor Recreation Planning and Related Issues.

Based on the findings of the 2006 *Virginia Outdoors Survey* (*VOS*), the top 10 most popular outdoor activities in Region 1, in order, are walking for pleasure, swimming (all types), driving for pleasure, jogging and running, fishing, hunting, using a playground, visiting natural areas, sunbathing and bicycling.

The supply of facilities for picnicking, camping, swimming, hunting and fishing is adequate or exceeds local demand in this region. There is a considerable amount of imported demand for the campsites, picnic areas, and miles of horse and hiking trails provided in the national park and national forest recreational areas. The "Heart of Appalachia" marketing campaign is capitalizing on these surpluses to attract eco-tourism to the region. This effort includes the Heart of Appalachia Bicycle Trail that runs 128 miles through the region.

Although the supply of recreational areas and facilities is adequate for many activities, there are several areas where additional facilities are needed to meet measured demand. The 2006 *VOS* has indicated the need for additional playgrounds, tennis courts, soccer fields, basketball courts, softball fields, football fields, baseball fields and golf courses (see Table X-1).

Many of these facilities will be provided by Region 1 localities. According to the Commonwealth of Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts, Comparative Report on Local Government Revenues and Expenditures (year ended June 30, 2005), per capita spending on parks and recreation for each locality in this region was: Lee County, $2.77; Scott County, $12.90; Wise County,

$0.96; and the City of Norton, $78.09. The budgetary and actual expenditures for the region indicate that the average spending for recreation was $23.68 per capita. The average expenditure for the combined three counties was $5.54 per capita, which is well below the statewide county average of $43.75. With average expenditures statewide in cities at $76.45 per capita, the City of Norton spends just above the statewide average.

Land conservation

A detailed discussion on statewide awareness of the need for conservation of farmland, parks, natural areas, and historical and cultural resources is found in Chapter III: Land Conservation.

Land Trusts and Conservation Programs Operating in Region 1:

- Virginia Outdoors Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- The Conservation Fund
- The Land Trust for Southwest Virginia
- Forest Legacy Program

Green infrastructure

Information about green infrastructure is found in Chapter IV: Green Infrastructure. Regional recommendations for green infrastructure include:

- Local and regional agencies should become informed and educate constituents about green infrastructure planning, including guidance on local zoning initiatives for changing community design and transportation systems.
- The Southern Appalachian Greenway Alliance's plans for the region incorporate many of the principles of green infrastructure planning and should be expanded to include other major elements.

Programs

The following recommendations integrate statewide program initiatives into responsive regional strategies for outdoor recreation and conservation. The statewide program areas addressed in this section include: trails and greenways, blueways and water access, historic and landscape resources, scenic resources, Scenic Highways and Virginia Byways, scenic rivers, watersheds, environmental and land stewardship education, and the private sector. Recommendations are bulleted or numbered and are not sequenced by state or local priorities. Numbered recommendations are site specific to the regional map at the end of this section.

Trails and greenways

For more detailed information, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Recreation Programs and Initiatives, Greenways and Trails.

In region 1, communities are working together with trail enthusiasts in Tennessee and eastward in the Southern Appalachian Greenway Alliance's efforts to connect the communities and people along the bi-state region in a network of multi-purpose trails. A plan has been adopted that highlights existing trails and potential alignments. As each segment is developed and brought on line, the vision will come closer to reality.

Statewide trunkline trails

1 The **Trans-Virginia Southern Trail** is the name given to the major trunkline trail system that traverses the southern part of Virginia from the Cumberland Gap to the Chesapeake Bay. The trail corridor is designed to use existing trails where possible and new trail segments where needed to link existing trails together. In this region, the possible components include the Wilderness Road Trail, Daniel Boone, Cane's Gap, Mendota, Over Mountain Victory, Virginia Creeper, Iron Mountain, New River Trail, and so forth east to the Bay. This is a long-term planning objective with easily defined tasks for accomplishing the objective. Many of the planned components of the Southern Appalachian Greenway Alliance's plans will become components of this vision.

2 The **Great Eastern Trail** will link existing trails from central Alabama to central New York along the Allegheny Highlands. The Southeast Foot Trails Coalition and the Mid- Atlantic Foot Trail Coalition are undertaking this project, which is being sponsored by the American Hiking Society. This trail may use the Cumberland Mountain Trail, which comes out of Tennessee at the Cumberland Gap, proceeds west to join the Pine Mountain Trail on its way to Breaks Interstate Park, and then continues north.

Regional trails

3 The **Town of Gate City** is developing a trail system that should be extended to join with the trails system in Kingsport, TN.

4 The abandoned railroad corridor between the **Town of Big Stone Gap** and the **Town of Appalachia**

should be considered for its potential as a trail to connect the two towns. Portions of this same railroad corridor extend to Norton and should be evaluated to see if they can be converted to a trail.

❺ The **Wilderness Road Trail** has been developed between the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and the Wilderness Road State Park using portions of an abandoned railroad. The greenway may be extended east from the state park and then looped back through the national park to rejoin the trail at Cumberland Gap. The abandoned railroad corridor continues east of the trail terminus. This should be extended, and other abandoned railroad segments in the region should be incorporated into this trail system where linkages are practical.

❻ The **Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail** passes through Scott and Lee counties and exits the state at the Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. This trail has some overlap with the Wilderness Road Trail. The Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail route enters the state from Tennessee on Route 23 and joins Route 58 near Duffield. It then follows Route 58 west to the Cumberland Gap. Historically significant sites along the route should be identified with interpretive signage and informational material.

❼ The **Cane's Gap Trail** in Scott County, a part of the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, is being developed by the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Corridor Alliance.

❽ **Motorized trails for All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) and dirt bikes** are popular recreational resources. In West Virginia, proponents have developed the Hatfield and McCoy Trail by linking abandoned railroads, management roads on private timber and mineral lands, and other trails into a comprehensive system of ATV trails. Visitors from throughout the region are attracted to the hundreds of miles of the Hatfield and McCoy trails system, bringing much needed tourism to areas of the state that have few other revenue sources. Consideration should be given to identifying lands suitable for a similar trail system in Virginia.

Water access and blueways

A discussion of the water access in the Commonwealth can be found in Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Water Access and Blueways. Local and regional recommendations include:

- Regional and local agencies should establish cooperative agreements among localities, other agencies and private landowners to meet the increasing need for public access to recreational waters.
- Regional and local agencies should identify strategies to make additional waterfront resources available for public use.
- Regional and local agencies should provide adequate support facilities and services, such as restrooms, concessions, parking and maintenance for existing and proposed public water and beach access areas.
- Regional and local agencies should acquire or maintain access to existing public beaches and water access sites that may be jeopardized by changes in land use or development activities.
- The rivers and lakes of far southwestern Virginia are popular recreational resources. Access to the developed lakes adequately meets demand. The major rivers are served by public access areas in some segments, but additional access is needed where existing sites are too far apart. To best meet current and projected demand, sites should be developed approximately every five miles and, where appropriate, portages should be created around dams and other river obstacles.
- Regional and local agencies should identify opportunities to develop water access to Virginia's rivers for bank fishing and boat launching.

❾ The **Powell, Holston and Clinch rivers** support recreational flows throughout most of the recreational season and therefore should have priority for the development of access sites. Natural Tunnel State Park's staff members conduct interpretive trips on the Clinch River in Scott County. The shortage of public access sites limits the duration and types of trips that can be offered. Facilities for canoe-in camping and public rest stops are also needed at appropriate distances along each river. State and local officials should work with river user groups to develop a canoe trail for the Clinch and the Powell rivers. Also, a management plan should be developed for each canoe trail that addresses law enforcement, education, camping, sanitation, access management and maintenance.

❿ The **Clinch, Holston and Powell rivers** need additional public boat launching and bank fishing opportunities.

Historic and landscape resources

Consideration should be given to evaluating potential historic and landscape recommendations in this region. For more detailed information, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Historic and Landscape Resources. Local and regional recommendations include:

- Regional and local agencies should identify historic and archaeological resources that can be used for tourism, recreation and education. These resources should be included in local land use planning and decision-making processes to promote preservation and protection.
- Regional and local agencies should build local historic attractions, historical societies, museums and other tourism organizations in the region to include the Virginia Association of Museums, Virginia Civil War Trails, APVA Preservation Virginia, the Virginia Main Street Program and others to enhance local heritage tourism, educational and recreational offerings.
- Regional and local agencies should encourage local governments and private organizations that own historic properties in the region to manage properties effectively for long-term protection and to maximize public benefit consistent with the nature of the historic property.
- Regional and local agencies should recognize the multiple historic and cultural resources within the rural landscape through rural historic districts.
- Regional and local agencies should support the creation of other heritage area programs to promote tourism and preservation in distinctive regions.

Scenic resources

Consideration should be given to potential scenic recommendations in this region. For more detailed information, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Scenic Resources. Local and regional recommendations include:

- Regional and local agencies should develop corridor management plans for scenic byways, blueways, greenways and scenic rivers to assure preservation of the scenic quality of the corridor.
- Regional and local agencies should protect the scenic value of lands adjacent to publicly owned properties, as well as the scenic value of working agricultural and forestal areas key to maintaining a sense of place and economic vitality of the region. Scenic attributes to be considered include:
  - Encourage development away from mountaintops to protect significant vistas.
  - Consider timber harvesting impacts on key viewsheds.
  - Protect viewsheds along river corridors and scenic byways.
  - Create scenic overlooks and vista cuts along Virginia byways and scenic highways to enhance the visual experience of traveling.

Scenic highways and Virginia byways

Opportunities to traverse Virginia's scenic and cultural landscapes are enhanced through nationally recognized designation. For more detailed information, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Scenic Highways and Virginia Byways.

There is a tremendous interest in thematic trails. Within this region, the following thematic trails are regional assets: the Wilderness Road Trail from Cumberland Gap up the Route 11 corridor to the lower end of the Shenandoah Valley, the Daniel Boone National Historic Trail, the Wildlife and Birding Trail, and the Civil War Trail. The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail also traverses this region. The Ralph Stanley Museum in Clintwood, the Country Cabin in Norton, and the Carter Family Fold and A.P. Carter Museum in Hiltons are stops located in this region.

Regional and local recommendations include:

- Development of a Virginia Karst Trail is recommended to help educate the public about karst resources in the Commonwealth. This thematic trail will promote resource management goals and best management practices that help landowners protect sensitive karst resources such as caves, springs and sinkholes. The trail will focus on above ground features and tourist caves throughout the state's valley and ridge physiographic province. The Virginia Karst Trail, endorsed by the Virginia Region of the National Speleological Society, will benefit the state through increased educational, commercial and tourism opportunities.
- Regional and local agencies should recognize and nominate scenic roads for designation as Virginia byways.
- Regional and local agencies should partner with other state, local and professional organizations to develop corridor management plans to protect the scenic assets of byway corridors.
- Regional and local agencies should incorporate Virginia byways and scenic highways into local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances to ensure viewsheds are conserved and the sense of place retained along these corridors.
- Regional and local agencies should support designation of nationally qualified historic corridors to increase civic engagement and foster heritage tourism.

The following road segments have been recommended for consideration as Virginia Byways:

11 **Route 614** from Weber City in Scott County to the Washington County line.

Scenic rivers

For detailed information about the Virginia's Scenic Rivers Program and its purpose, benefits and designation process, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Recreation Programs and Initiative, Scenic Rivers. Regional and local recommendations include:

- Localities should adopt planning tools (e.g., land use overlays, corridor management plans) that will afford special recognition and protection to Virginia's scenic rivers.

The following river segments are potential Virginia scenic rivers and should be evaluated to determine suitability for designation:

12 The **Clinch River** in Scott County.

13 The **Powell River** in Lee County.

Watershed resources

For information about Virginia's watershed programs, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Virginia's Watershed Programs.

Region 1 is in the Tennessee watershed that ultimately flows toward the Ohio and Tennessee basins into the Mississippi River. Karst topography, which covers much of the region, creates special issues and considerations for water quality and quantity in the region. Recommendations developed by the regional policy committee should be implemented, and they need to be considered in area planning efforts.

Watershed Groups in Region 1:

- Virginia Conservation Network

Environmental and land stewardship education

For detailed information on Environmental and Land Stewardship education, see Chapter VII: Outdoor Programs and Initiatives, Environmental and Land Stewardship Education.

Federal programs

For information on federal programs affecting Virginia's outdoor recreation and conservation opportunities, see Chapter IX-A: Resource Agencies. Local and regional recommendations are listed by agency.

National parks

- Local and regional government, user groups and nonprofits should work with NPS to revise policy that allows mountain bikes to use appropriate national park trails.

14 **Cumberland Gap National Historic Park (NHP)** provides camping, trails, picnicking, and interpretive areas and programs. The park should work with federal, state and local trail planners to route the Great Eastern Trail through the park.

National forests

15 The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests should continue development of its support facilities for the **Guest River Gorge Trail**. When completed, visitors will be able to access the rail-to-trail conversion from several locations. The Guest River Gorge is a spectacular scenic area that should attract visitors from throughout the country.

16 A portion of the **Guest River** in Wise and Scott counties has been designated a state Scenic River. This beautiful river flows through a spectacular gorge on its way to join the Clinch River. The Forest Service should evaluate the Guest River's potential as a National Wild or Scenic River.

17 Horseback riding enthusiasts working with the Forest Service should continue to develop an equestrian trail on **Pine Mountain** to link recreational facilities at Pound Reservoir with those at Breaks Interstate Park.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

The TVA has worked closely with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and local governments to provide access to the Clinch River and the other rivers of the Tennessee River system. Consideration should be given to the development of formal water trails on these rivers including the necessary provisions for rest stops, canoe-in campsites, publication of maps and organization of a management entity.

The TVA also operates and manages major reservoirs and recreational facilities in the region that help meet the demand for lake recreation, picnicking and camp-

ing. They are strong advocates of "smart growth" programs and work closely with local jurisdictions to implement these programs.

State facilities and programs

For a discussion of state facilities and programs throughout the entire Commonwealth, see Chapter IX-B: Resource Agencies. Local and regional recommendations are listed by agency or program.

State parks

18 **Wilderness Road State Park** (200 acres), located in Lee County, is six miles east of Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. The 1870s Karlan Mansion is available to rent. In addition to picnicking and group camping, the park is unique because of the reconstructed Martin's Station. This premier living history site consists of several 18th century frontier cabins, outbuildings and a stockade fort. Ongoing living history demonstrations, presented at various times throughout the year, feature blacksmithing, surveying, farming and militia musters. Trails in the park are the Indian Ridge Trail, which is a self-guided natural heritage trail, and Wilderness Road Trail, a 10-mile hiking, biking and equestrian trail. This abandoned section of railroad right-of-way that runs through the park has been developed into a trail, which connects local communities with the park and with Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. The trail has been named the Wilderness Road Trail and is part of the Daniel Boone National Historic Trail that passes through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky.

Through the 2002 General Obligation Bond (GOB) funds, a visitor center has been constructed. The visitor center is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ certified building, which utilizes the latest technology in "green" building design. Other projects have included paving and additional parking lots and the renovation of the Karlan Mansion. Additional land acquisitions are being explored to protect more open space and to create opportunities to connect the Wilderness Road Trail with the northern end of the Cumberland Gap National Historic Park through the Hensley Settlement, then loops back to the Wilderness Road Trail at Cumberland Gap.

19 **Natural Tunnel State Park** (889 acres), located in Scott County, has been called the "Eighth Wonder of the World" and has been attracting sightseers to the mountains of southwestern Virginia for more than 100 years. In addition to the scenic wonders of the park, other offerings include swimming, camping, picnicking, hiking, an amphitheater and interpretive programs. Unique in the state park system is the 536 foot long chairlift, which provides park guests with a different mode of transportation down to the tunnel. The Cove Ridge Center's primary focus is outdoor education and adventure activities, but it is designed so it can also be used for training workshops, meetings and retreats with an auditorium accommodating up to 100. Adjoining the center are two six-room dormitories that can accommodate up to 48 overnight guests. Restrooms and showers are centrally located within the dorms. Each dorm also has a self-contained kitchen.

The 2002 GOB has also provided funds for cabins, an additional full service campground and for trail improvements. Through a combination of funding sources, and coordinated by the Daniel Boone Wilderness Road Trail Association, the Wilderness Road Blockhouse was constructed. The two-story log cabin is a replica of the John Anderson Blockhouse, which was built in the late 1700s. For more than 25 years, the original blockhouse served as the starting point for parties crossing into Kentucky on the Wilderness Road Trail. A small educational and interpretive center, depicting the role of the blockhouse in westward expansion, will be built to resemble a pioneer-era structure.

The park's location along the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail creates numerous opportunities to participate in regional programming. In addition, the park is a site along the Crooked Road Virginia Heritage Music Trail. The Cove Ridge Foundation, a 24 member citizen board, develops and supports educational, recreational and cultural programs for the region that are offered through the Cove Ridge Center. The community based Cove Ridge Center Cultural Arts Council provides support and coordination of the programming offered at the center.

20 **Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park** (1 acre) is located in Big Stone Gap in Wise County. The museum, listed in 2002 on the National Register of Historic Places, is steeped in history. The mansion, which houses the museum, was built in the 1880s by Rufus Ayers, a Virginia attorney general. The Commonwealth acquired the mansion in 1946 from the Slemp Foundation, which was established by C. Bascom Slemp, who was a private secretary to President Calvin Coolidge and a member of the U.S. Congress. The museum was officially dedicated in 1948. Museum collections number more than 20,000 pieces. Exhibits chronicle the exploration and

development of the town and surrounding area during the 1890s coal boom and the pioneer period. The museum offers activities for children, scout and school programs, workshops, an annual Festival of Trees program and a walking tour of the grounds. Also managed by the museum is Poplar Hill Cottage, which is a three-bedroom rental cottage that sleeps six people and is located adjacent to the museum.

The 2002 GOB provided funding to design and install a wheelchair-accessible lift. The museum is presently not wheelchair-accessible, and the lift will provide access to two floors.

The Slemp Foundation continues to support the programming offered at the museum. Partnerships have been established with the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority, the Crooked Road Virginia Heritage Music Trail and the Town of Big Stone Gap. The Friends of the Museum helps with programming, special events and provide funding for park improvements. The museum also participates on the Community Festival Committee, which is sponsored by Bridging the Gap, a community development group.

State natural area preserves

The Cedars Natural Area Preserve and Unthanks Cave Natural Area Preserve are located in Lee County.

As of November 2006, 1,146 occurrences of 248 rare species and natural communities have been documented in region 1 by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). One hundred twenty species are globally rare and 31 are federally threatened or endangered. One hundred thirty-five conservation sites have been identified in the district. Of these, 73 (54 percent) have received some level of protection through ownership or management by state, federal and non-government organizations. However, only 16 sites are protected well enough to ensure the long-term viability of the rare species and natural communities they support.

DCR recommends that all unprotected conservation sites, and all unprotected portions of partially protected sites, be targeted for future land conservation efforts. The appropriate method of protection will vary with each site, but may include placing the site on Virginia's Registry of Natural Areas, developing a voluntary management agreement with the landowner, securing a conservation easement through a local land trust, acquiring the site through a locality or local land trust, dedicating the site as a natural area preserve with the current owner, or acquiring the site as a state-owned natural area preserve.

Within Region 1, DCR is particularly interested in protecting:

- Significant caves and karst areas.
- Water quality for globally rare aquatic communities.
- Terrestrial limestone communities.
- Additional lands around The Cedars and Unthanks Cave natural area preserves.

Information about the location of conservation sites and the natural heritage resources they contain, as well as management assistance, is available to local planners from DCR's Natural Heritage staff. For a discussion of the Natural Heritage Program, see chapter IX-B.

State fish and wildlife management areas

- The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) should continue to investigate opportunities to acquire in-holdings in their Wildlife Management Areas and to improve each area with trails and other structures for wildlife viewing and other outdoor recreation. They should also acquire additional lands wherever feasible to provide additional access for public hunting, fishing and other wildlife viewing recreation. In this region, DGIF manages Keokee Lake and Bark Lake as public fishing facilities.
- DGIF should continue to work with local and regional governments to support the Birding and Wildlife Trail program.

State forests

- Local and regional agencies should encourage the use of Department of Forestry (DOF) Best Management Practices in floodplain forest areas, particularly those adjacent to state-designated scenic waterways.
- Local and regional agencies should use DOF properties as field classrooms to help with educational programs.
- Local and regional agencies should coordinate with DOF and seek the assistance of local trail and river user organizations to develop forest trails and publish maps for each state forest, as well as establish greenways and blueways for public use.
- Local and regional agencies should investigate opportunities to acquire fee simple ownership or easements to conserve working farms and forests in the region.

- Local and regional agencies should work with DOF to create defensible space around buildings to reduce the risk of wild fires through the DOF Fire Wise Program.
- Localities should work with DOF on education and monitoring of tree diseases and other pests that could weaken the forested environments.
- Agricultural lands should be targeted for reforestation to protect the water quality of the area and limit the effects of erosion on these lands.

Other state lands

For a discussion of other state lands, see Chapter IX-C: Resource Agencies.
The following state-owned lands contain significant undeveloped open space that may have some potential for local recreational use. Each site should be assessed and, where appropriate, a cooperative agreement should be developed to make these resources available for local use as parks and open space.

21 **Mountain Empire Community College** in Wise County has 100 acres of land, some of which is suitable for recreational use. Some facilities have been developed that help meet local demand.

Transportation programs

- Local and regional agencies should develop alternatives to the use of private automobiles for daily activities. Transit systems, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, improved community design, as well as a change in people's attitudes toward transportation alternatives will be needed for the transportation system of the future to meet capacity needs and energy constraints.
- Local and regional agencies should work with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to implement Context Sensitive Solutions that accommodate multiple transportation modes.
- Local and regional agencies should recognize the need for a network of low-speed, low-volume roadways used by equestrians, pedestrians and cyclists, and they should include protections for this network in their comprehensive plan.
- Local and regional agencies should encourage the development of a permanent process for integrating the recommendations of local public health agencies, and they should include "active living" opportunities into all phases of transportation planning, land use planning and project design.

Local and regional parks and recreation departments

For a discussion of local and regional parks and recreation departments, see Chapter IX-D: Resource Agencies. Local and regional recommendations include:

- Explore reclamation of abandoned landfills into new and needed parks.
- Consider cooperative management for the recreational use of private, corporate, state or federally owned lands in order to increase local access and meet outdoor recreation needs.

22 The **Big Cherry Reservoir** property is a 3,200-acre watershed and lake that provides municipal drinking water to the Town of Big Stone Gap. Opportunities for fishing, boating, trails and wildlife viewing are currently offered. Big Stone Gap should implement the recommendations in the Big Cherry Resource Management Plan to enhance the range of recreational opportunities provided on the watershed property.

Private sector

Much of the demand for outdoor recreation is met by the private sector. Because of the abundance of water resources in the region, there are a number of water-based recreational opportunities that could be explored. For a discussion of Private Sector role, see Chapter IX-E: Resource Agencies.

Map X-1 (8.5”x11” – B&W)
Recreational Planning Regions

Table X-1. Region 1 (LENOWISCO Planning District): Existing and Projected Outdoor Recreation Needs

Activity	Activity Days	Demand	Units	Supply	2010 Needs	2020 Needs
Baseball	121,869	24	fields	19	5	4
Basketball	149,567	35	goals	14	21	20
Bicycling	131,563	9	miles	NI		
Mountain	21,696	2	miles	NI		
Other	109,867	8	miles	N		
Lake, river and bay use (combined)	109,867	1,969	water acres	491	1,478	1,413
Power boating	52,071	1,255	water acres	S		
Sailing	7,386	64	water acres	S		
Saltwater fishing	26,036	146	water acres	S		
Jet ski, personal watercraft	16,619	260	water acres	S		
Water skiing, towed on water	7,755	243	water acres	S		
Camping	149,382	881	sites	679	202	173
Tent camping	85,401	504	sites	365	139	122
Developed camping	63,981	377	sites	314	63	51
Fitness trail use	76,630	6	mile trails	4	2	2
Fields (combined)	156,953	33	fields	5	28	27
Football	59,088	12	fields	5	7	7
Soccer	97,865	21	fields	-	21	20
Stream use (combined)	346,126	220	stream miles	3	217	210
Fresh water fishing	300,980	212	stream miles	S		
Human-powered boating	16,249	4	stream miles	S		
Rafting	9,233	2	stream miles	S		
Tubing	19,665	3	stream miles	S		
Golfing	116,699	4	courses	63	0	0
Hiking, backpacking	145,412	75	trail miles	157	-82	-85
Horseback riding	41,546	18	miles	56	-38	-39
In-line skating	24,928	2	miles	NI		
Jogging, running	600,113	48	mile trails	NI		
Nature study, programs	25,389	4	sites	1	3	2

Note: Demand multipliers used to create this chart are based on the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's 2006 *Virginia Outdoors Survey* as measured at the regional level. Additional analysis is required to adjust these results for local conditions.

NA: not applicable, no standard needed **S**: same as combined **NS**: not inventoried separately **NI**: not inventoried **(-)** indicates surplus

Table X-1. Region 1 (LENOWISCO Planning District): Existing and Projected Outdoor Recreation Needs – *continued*

Activity	Activity Days	Demand	Units	Supply	2010 Needs	2020 Needs
Picnicking away from home	126,024	327	tables	746	-419	-430
Skateboarding	70,167	22	sites	NI		
Snow skiing or snowboarding	15,788	0	ski lifts	-	0	0
Softball	131,102	23	fields	12	11	11
Sunbathing, relaxing on beach	171,171	12	beach acres	7	5	5
Swimming	923,250	62		NI		
Outdoor area	463,472	47	beach acres	7	40	39
Outdoor pools	301,903	13	pools	14	-1	-2
Indoor pools	157,876	2	pools	-	2	2
Tennis	72,014	45	courts	28	17	16
Used a playground	248,354	35	sites	22	13	12
Visiting gardens	24,558	3	sites	NI		
Visiting historic sites	135,441	11	sites	NI		
Visiting natural areas	172,463	29	sites	NI		
Volleyball	43,393	13	courts	4	9	8
Hunting	296,363	48,600	acres	51,687	-3,087	-4,679
Drive for pleasure	612,115	NA	NA	NI		
Driving motorcycle off road	24,928	11	miles	-	11	11
Driving 4-Wheel-Drive Off road	104,327	NA	NA	NS		
Walking for pleasure	1,985,911	NA	NA	NI		
Bird watching	24,374	NA		NI		
Other	53,549	NA	NA	NI		

Note: Demand multipliers used to create this chart are based on the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's 2006 *Virginia Outdoors Survey* as measured at the regional level. Additional analysis is required to adjust these results for local conditions.

NA: not applicable, no standard needed **S**: same as combined **NS**: not inventoried separately **NI**: not inventoried **(-)** indicates surplus

Map X-2. Region 1 (LENOWISCO Planning District) Conservation Lands (11 x 17 color)

Map X-3. Region 1(LENOWISCO Planning District) Outdoor Recreation
(11 x 17 color)