

Recommendation feedback from CAC

Natural and Cultural Resources

1. What works well / What's strong:

- Put ideas together well
- SCGN/habitat support
- Invasives control
- Woody stem control
- Local seed source
- Prairie chicken habitat
- Plant genotype
- Rare plant protection and trying to do interp
- Old-growth forest
- Woody species management

2. What needs clarification:

- NPC vs restoration language
- Sandy soil spurge beetles

3. What's missing or could be added:

- How to engage public in NR management
- Coordinate/consult with THIPOs
- MOU with TNC and MSUM
- Signage explaining specialness of cultural resources and plants
- Information on how tribes have used natural resources
- Involve Lakota
- Introduced species management

4. Priority ideas / Strong support for:

- RTE species protection
- NPC management
- Invasives control
- Butterfly reintroduction
- Coordinate with adjacent landowners

5. Concerns, questions, or red flags:

- Competing priorities of development vs. ecosystem management

Interpretative Services

1. What works well / What's strong:

- Amphitheater—formal area for presentations
- Small indoor space
- Science Center—keep leveraging programs and outreach

2. What needs clarification:

- Signs—rare species and cultural items—working with the community
- Themes: history/story of the park
 - Lake Agassiz—cultural history of the area
- Advertise through different avenues—multiple places
- Specify where storage and indoor presentation space would be

3. What's missing or could be added:

- Where to find programming—educating program
- RSC staffed more regularly
- More partners—River Keepers, United Prairie
- Interpretation for New Americans
- Funding for year-round interp position
- Work with different community groups
- History/story of the park
- School groups—future with RSC

4. Priority ideas / Strong support for:

- Promotion and more participation
- Engage public—schools, year-round programming in community
- Update outreach materials
- Collaborating with RSC

5. Concerns, questions, or red flags:

- Different funding sources—different moving parts

Outdoor Recreation

1. What works well / What's strong:

- Nature play area Relevant to what people experience in the park. Miniature version of park. Encourage further exploration
- Year Round Trail Center Heated warming space and year round flush toilets to help encourage winter use
- Expand Camping as current demand for state park experience type camping is high
- Like swimming pond conversion to nature play area with unique things to explore
- Accommodate more winter recreation access (warming house heated bathrooms)
- Accommodate facilities for new users (ethnic, nontraditional)
- Generally good recommendations
- Develop winter trails better to help people find and be more comfortable exploring. Suggestion was a short designated snowshoe trail that is well marked
- Incorporating Art and Sculptures

2. What needs clarification:

- Bathrooms out on trails where they are now. Need is in farther out distances.
- Amount of development that might occur
- Winter trail center/facility
- Some questions on accessibility improvements vs development. Not wanting to sacrifice natural resources for development. Ok to improve accessibility but keep to trail corridors.

3. What's missing or could be added:

- Pack winter trails/formal winter trails make more accessible to use
- AIS if boating expands
- Better signage/directions to find your way around the park
- Generally good
- Winter designated trails marking
- Restrooms on Trails

4. Priority ideas / Strong support for:

- Friends Group Interest starting one or organizing volunteers
- Improving access to water for fishing and river use
- Nature Play area with some sort of water feature
- Support for converting Swimming pond (to nature play area) Lots of space for a variety of activities experiences. Mini Splash pad/play

5. Concerns, questions, or red flags:

- Heartland Trail. Good to provide access but not at a cost to prairie and high quality natural resources
- What can WPA buildings be used for/ How to make use.
- Can existing WPA buildings be used or added on to
- Capacity of land and natural resources (sustain high quality)
- Keep river shore natural but ok to improve access. (no large structures)