Benefits

Section I
Social Benefits  Community Level

- Strengthens communities
- Reduces crime
- Encourages volunteerism
- Promotes stewardship
- Support and enhancement of intimate communities
- Higher level of public health
Social Benefits
Individual Level

- Physical health
  - Promotes active living

- Mental health
  - Increased confidence
  - Improved creativity
  - Better self esteem
  - Reduces stress and anxiety

- Promotes social bonding
  - Bonding experience with friends and family
  - Meet people with similar hobbies
Reducing Risk on Site

- Avoid loss of resources
  - Physical
  - Financial
- Training and supervising
  - Emergency response - on site
  - More control of risk
  - Standards and management plan
  - Able to assist others
- Available to use
  - People are on site legally
  - More controlled environment
Environmental Standards

3 factors:

- **Economic Value**
  - Will the public use/benefit? Possibly pay?

- **Mental/Physical Health**
  - Promote healthy choices/options for recreational activities?

- **Social Value**
  - Stronger Community/Recreation.
Environmental Benefits

- **Diverse ecosystem from human impact:**
  - Game Trails, Controlled Burns, Native Planting
- **Richer Species Diversity:**
  - Migratory/Resident species more prominent
- **Assistance through Human Management:**
  - Keeping the environment the same/different will alter the ecosystem
Benefits from the Environment

- **Natural Stress Reliever**
  - Proven to be therapeutic/prescribed by doctors

- **Connection to Earth**
  - Increases self confidence/internal well-being

- **Community Building**
  - Ensures a healthier community
Economic Benefits: Community Level

- **Increased regional revenue**
  - A case study of the Red River Gorge located in Kentucky found that climbing brought $3.6 million into the region.

- **Increased support of local business**
  - Of the aforementioned regional revenue, 2.7 million supported local businesses

- **Increase of full-time and part-time jobs**
  - The Red River Gorge study concluded that 39 full time jobs were supported by climbing
Economic Benefits - Community Level cont.

- Increase in property values for houses close to the park
  - A study by the U.S. Forest Service showed that a 5% increase of property values

- It brings tourists to the community
  - A study by the parks and recreation foundation showed that the parks bring around 40% of the tourism into a community
What Do Semi-Urban Parks Offer?

- Improving quality of life
- Increase local real estate, being directly adjacent to parks added a 5 to 7% premium to most properties
- Increased the economic activity in the area
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

Section II
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

How to use ROS:

- Inventory existing opportunities.
- Analyze the effects of other resource activities.
- Estimate the consequences of management decisions on planned opportunities.
- Link user desires with recreation opportunities.
- Identify complementary roles of all recreation suppliers.
- Develop standards and guidelines for planned settings and monitoring activities.

https://www.fs.fed.us/cdt/carrying_capacity/rosfieldguide/ros_primer_and_field_guide.htm
Our Plan

ROS

High Density Q, P W Low Density
Developed P Q W Undeveloped
Unnatural P Q W Natural

Q=Quarry P=Parking Lots W=Wooded Areas
Access

Types of access
- Roads/parking lots
- Foot trails

Restrict ease of access:
- Signage at all trailheads notifying public of the rules and regulations, and hours (dusk to dawn)
- Limit access using a first-come first-serve (queuing) system (climbing areas)

Restrict means of conveyance (e.g., cars, all terrain vehicles, horses, feet)
- Physical barriers blocking access roads, using gates, massive boulders, and concrete barriers

Access more restricted in primitive/urban settings
- Signage specifying specific area usage age, where people can and can’t go in regards to their desired recreation
Non-Recreational Resource Uses

- External trainings for fire and law enforcement
- Water extraction for out of park mining use (must consider noise disruptions)
- Academic uses for local schools and universities
  - Bellefonte Area Middle School
  - Penn State
  - Bellefonte Area High School
On-Site Management

- Gated access at communal and parking access points
  - Restricting motorized vehicles
  - Keeping roadways open for possible vehicle access
- Waste Disposal Options
  - Providing garbage cans & recycling bins to prevent litter
- Facilities
  - Small open-pit bathrooms
- Signage
  - Climbing notices (operational times of day)
  - Open/ Closed pathways
  - Restricted water access
  - Other park notices and advisories
Social Interaction

Trails & Other Misc. Rec. Areas

- Infrequent visitor interaction
- Use will be distanced over the length of pathways
- More individual use
- Quieter settings
- More natural settings

Climbing Area

- Increased visitor interaction
- Concentrated use on climbing routes
- Possible group & individual use
- Permit system to limit crowding
- Louder due to visitor use
- Slightly less natural
Visitor Impact Management

Restricting trails to certain user groups to avoid damaging trails (humans vs. horses)

Restricting certain activities (camping, hunting, etc.)

Designating certain areas to climb/set number of people per climbing area

Creating access time frame to make quarry more public

- cuts down on criminal activity
- less pollution, littering, etc.
- less risk of human injury
- trespassing
- cuts down on motorized equipment damage
Potential Management Issues

Five main reasons given by the public for not visiting semi-urban parks:

• Lack of or poor condition of facilities
• Undesirable users
• Concerns about dogs and dog mess
• Safety and security
• Environmental problems such as litter and vandalism
Management Solutions

Indirect

- law enforcement to criminal activity (county, township, state)
- heavier limitations near climbing areas vs. hiking trails (signage)

Direct

- volunteers to enforce certain rules until staff can be hired (waivers, permits)
- fencing and gates around more dangerous areas (water, steep edges, restricted vehicle access)
What Are Easements?

- Appurtenant
- In-gross
- Right of Way
Pennsylvania’s Recreational Use of Land and Water Act

If no entrance fee is charged, the Act provides that landowners do not have to keep their land safe for recreational users and have no duty to warn of dangerous conditions.

- Land in natural state
- Protects Landowners
- Landowners remain liable for willful or malicious failure to guard or warn recreational users of a dangerous condition of the land
How To Obtain An Easement

- Preliminary Analysis & Due Diligence
- Analysis of Site Specific Constraints
  - “Highest and Best Use”
- Conservation Easement Draft
- Final Steps

Things to consider:

Restrictions
- Habitat restoration
- Motorized vehicles
- Exotic species

Special Issues
- Mortgaged property
- Severed rights
- Grazing and property tax issues
“No Longer Just a Hole in the Ground”

- Sustainable redevelopment as a solution
- Human and environmental benefits, without removing quarrying as an industry
- Increase public acceptance of quarrying
- Land rehabilitation makes disturbed areas suitable for new sustainable land uses

Catherine McCandless
Case Studies

Designing and Applying Conservation Easements

What to think about:

- Techniques to protect open space
  - Conservation Easements
  - Purchase of development rights (PDR)
  - Transference of development rights (TDR)
  - Special zoning districts
  - Fee simple acquisitions

- Applied Successfully
  - Ex: Blackfoot River in Western Montana

- Highlight the income tax benefits and importance of conservation.

- Generally immune to court challenges because it is a voluntary technique
Case Studies

Conservation Easements: Biodiversity Protection and Private Use

- The researchers conducted surveys to collect information on 119 conservation easements established by the Nature Conservancy in 2005.

- The staff member who is most familiar with easements would participate in the survey.

- Results
  - Half of the easements allowed for some type of commercial land use
  - Easements with commercial uses tend to be larger
  - Easements with commercial uses were more likely to have management plans
  - 19% had public recreation or other public access

- Easements with commercial uses should have well-designed quantitative monitoring programs and adaptive management

Case Studies

An evaluation of landowners’ conservation easements on their livelihoods and well-being

● The researchers conducted 35 interviews with landowners who have completed conservation easements with the Nature Conservancy in Colorado.

● Five themes developed from the analyses:
  ○ Conservation
  ○ Financial
  ○ Legal and process
  ○ Personal and family
  ○ Social and community

● Results can be used to incorporate private landowners in planning conservation easements

Case Studies

An evaluation of landowners’ conservation easements on their livelihoods and well-being

- Results
  - Motivations:
    - Conservation and Financial
  - Benefits
    - Social and community involvement
    - Grant Funding became more accessible for landowners
  - Challenges
    - Time and paperwork
    - Negative neighbor reactions
  - Changes
    - Desire to do future work with their land

Recommendations

We recommend:

- Creating a recreation management agreement (similar to Blackfoot)
- Having management plans including well-designed quantitative monitoring programs and adaptive management
- Highlighting the benefits and challenges landowners may encounter

“Conservation will ultimately boil down to rewarding the private landowner who conserves the public interest.”
- Aldo Leopold
Case Studies

Section IV
Casket Quarry, Duluth, MN

- Originally owned by the Duluth Crushed Stone Co. and seized operation in mid 20th century.
- By the ‘80s it had become a hotspot for ice and rock climbing, but was a “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” situation.
- Being unmanaged it was full of trash, graffitti, and a place for teenagers to go and party making it an eye soar in the community.
- Duluth Climbers Coalition and others wanted to make the area open to not only climbers, but to hikers, mountain bikers, picnickers.
Casket Quarry, Duluth, MN

- Full Acquisition of the land was gained in 2015 with help from the Access Fund and fully established as a park in 2016.
- Duluth Climbers Coalition manage some aspects of the park (conditions) while the city manages others aspects.
- In 2017, an old water line was unearthed and they started ice farming. Bringing ice to dry parts of the wall and being able to shape the ice for different difficulties.
Birdsboro Quarry - Birdsboro, PA
Birdsboro Climbing Quarry

- Access negotiated in 1993
- Permission granted by Birdsboro Township & Municipal Authority
- Maintained/funded by Birdsboro Area Climbers Association
- Nearly 150 climbing routes
- Hiking, Rock + Ice Climbing
- Strict Guidelines

http://www.birdsboroclimbing.com/
Takeaways

- Climbing the Quarry is a privilege, not a right
- Community ties
- Power of appealing to empathy
Governor Stable

- South Central PA (Bainbridge)
- Diabase Rock
- Bouldering
- Located on private land
- Long history of access issues
  - Open again as of December 16, 2017
  - Access through August 31, 2018
- Managed by South Central Pennsylvania Climbers
- Only accessible by members of SCPC
SCPC

- Formed in 2016
- Board of Directors
- Ambassadors
- Guidebooks, Bouldering Competitions
- Maintenance
- Rules
- Locations
  - Governor Stable
  - Governor Dick
  - Chickies Rock
  - Safe Harbor
  - Michaux State Forest
GOVERNOR STABLE BOULDERS

Due to our efforts and a successful 2017 GS Fundraiser and Competition, GS is OPEN from December 16th, 2017 - August 31st, 2018. Read the information below and follow these 3 STEPS:

1. READ THE RULES (BELOW)
2. SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST
3. DONATE TO SCPC

The 2016 Governor Stable Bouldering Competition
Saturday, December 17th
Conoy Township Park, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

All Pre-Registered will receive a t-shirt designed by Lucky Streak Clothing Co. and a burrito designed by Roburritos!

Day of Registration Starts at 8am
Climbing Starts at 9am $30
Climbing Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania (C3PA)

Relatively inactive currently

People

- Scott Woods
- Ieva Perkons

Locations

- Donation Rocks
- Hunter’s Rocks
- Power Cut
Portland Quarries
Transformed

Section V
Portland Quarries Transformed
Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park

- In 2007, The Hayes brothers bargained a lease agreement with the City of Portland to acquire a piece of quarry land.
Recreational Opportunities
Important Notes

- Since 2007, 0 deaths due to drowning
- When regulated, risk is reduced
- Closed to visitors at night
- 300,000+ visitors since park opening - Currently over 50,000 per year
- 15% of income is returned to the City of Portland (Over $1,000,000 thus far)
- City residents receive a discount to the park, and are extremely welcoming of the park and the revenue it has brought the city