

Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle

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In Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle are found not only most of the state-owned outdoor recreational facilities but also the physical potentials which, if developed, would enable this region to become not only the leading recreational area of the state but also one of the chief recreational areas of the entire Ohio River watershed. It is urgent that these potentialities be recognized now and developed within the next ten years or some of the latent recreational assets may disappear.

At this writing, October, 1961, the state- and national-owned recreational facilities could be better coordinated. Some of the potentialities of this triangle apparently are not recognized or are neglected by local, state and national agencies. As far as the writer knows, the region presented has never been identified, bounded, named or characterized.

In this paper the author wishes to call attention to the area and, if possible, contribute suggestions for the region's coordinated development. Although it is located, in part, in the depressed area of the state where there is a surplus of labor and an outward migrating population, here the natural resources of forest, water and recreation are underdeveloped.

General Characteristics

Boundaries. Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle is bounded on the west by the Wabash River and on the south and southeast by the serpentine course of the Ohio River. Its non-river boundary is formed by drawing three straight lines: (1) the first connects the junction of the Indiana-Illinois state boundary and the Wabash River with Turkey Run State Park, (2) the second a short line connects the Turkey Run and Shades State Parks and (3) the third connects the Shades State Park and the junction of the Indiana-Ohio boundary and the Ohio River. Thirty-two of Indiana's 92 counties are completely within this triangle and parts of 11 others are included.

Size. The 32 counties in this triangle have a land area of over 7.7 million acres. When parts of the other 11 are included, then this region covers over one-third of the state's entire land area.

An arc with a 190-mile radius pivoting in Shades State Park would include all the southernmost points in Indiana and this recreational region.

Relative Location. Five of Indiana's 11 standard metropolitan county areas are in or partially in the region, namely Clark, Floyd, Marion, Vanderburgh and Vigo. The other six are less than 180 air miles away.

People living in the extreme northwest corner of Lake County in metropolitan Chicago are about 185 miles from the Shades State Park. Those living in the northwest corner of Steuben County (which is in the northwest corner of Indiana) are less than 200 air miles from Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle. Part of the Louisville metropolitan area is within this region and metropolitan Cincinnati is only about ten miles east. From the standpoint of accessibility over two-thirds of Indiana's citizens can use the area for day outings and all of the state's citizens can reach it for weekends or several-day outings.

Topography. All of Indiana's unglaciated hill lands are within this Recreational Triangle as well as most of the rugged topography associated with the Norman Upland, the Crawford Upland, the Muscatatuck Regional Slope and the Dearborn Upland.

Population. Eighteen of the 32 counties lying entirely within this region had fewer people in 1960 than in 1900.² Between 1900-1960 only in four of these 32 counties did the population increase more rapidly than it did in the state average.³ These four were Bartholomew, Clark, Monroe and Vanderburgh. During this same sixty-year period, ten additional counties gained in population but the increase was less than the 18 per cent state increase.⁴ In spite of the fact that, with few exceptions, this area is one of declining population, there is a labor surplus in the region.

Recreational Assets

Besides its light and declining population density, this triangular recreational region contains the state's concentration of (1) forests, (2) reservoir sites, (3) natural scenic views, (4) early historical places and (5) lowest-priced land.

Forests. The 32 counties wholly in this area have 2.8 million acres of forest land.⁵ If the forest acreage within the other 11 counties were added to the 2.8 million, there would be in and adjacent to this recreational triangle over three million acres of forest land or over three-fourths of the entire acreage.

Reservoir Sites. The greatest number of large dam and reservoir sites (not farm ponds) are in the hill lands and in the major river valleys of this region: namely, the Ohio, Wabash and White Rivers. These sites are potentially capable of holding more acre-feet of water than the artificial reservoir sites in other parts of the state.

Scenic Views. Formerly the greatest concentration of unique and scenic views in northern Indiana were found in the Dunes area along Lake Michigan, but today these views are rapidly being destroyed or despoiled. Many areas with recreational potential have been leveled, filled-in and/or polluted. Some realists fear that within the next 25 years industry and urbanization will sweep around and perhaps over the area in the Dunes State Park.

Since the scenic areas of Kankakee Swamps have been largely destroyed by drainage and those of the Dunes along Lake Michigan primarily occupied and despoiled by cities and industry, the state's remaining scenic attractions are concentrated in Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle.

Early Historical Places. Since the southern part of Indiana was settled first, it is only natural that cultural features which epitomize the state's early history are to be found here adjacent to the Ohio River.⁶ Those who wish to study early "on-the-spot" history in its geographic setting should come to southern Indiana's Ohio River country. Here, where archaeologists uncover the past and reconstruct the pre-white uses of the land, are found interesting remains of pre-white cultures.

Low-Priced Land. To date it is difficult to convince either city or rural people that recreational areas are just as essential in a metropolitan society as stores, offices, warehouses and factories. It is also usually difficult to get adequate appropriations from a state legislature or local politi-

cal governments for the purchase of relatively high priced recreational land in and near the cities.

At the present time, the lowest-priced land in the state is in this recreational area. And, fortunately, some of it can be most profitably used for forest and recreational purposes.

Present Recreational Development

Although the development of the recreational potentialities in this triangle has hardly begun, still here is found the greatest concentration of state-owned outdoor recreational accommodations. Within the area are ten of the 14 state-owned forests and both sections of the Hoosier National Forest. Not only does the region contain 15 of the state's 23 parks, but 10 of these contain 33,101 acres (July 1, 1960) or over 75 per cent of the entire state park acreage (43,980 acres).⁷

All three of Indiana's flood control reservoirs, Cagle's Mill, Mansfield and Monroe (under construction), are located here. Also six of the 14 state game farms owned and/or managed by Indiana's Fish and Game Division are found here. In addition, nine of the 14 State Memorials are scattered through the area.

Because most of the state-owned outdoor recreational accommodations are in the area, this does not mean that these facilities are either adequate or well-developed. In the state forests, these are totally inadequate and often in need of repair. The recreational facilities made available during the 1930's when ten of the state's forests were established have been left to deteriorate.⁸ Only a few lakes, beaches, shelter houses and other facilities were constructed in the 20 year period of 1940-1960.

One of the reasons that extensive recreational facilities were not developed in the Hoosier National Forest in the past is that the United States Forest Service formerly did not have a clear-cut legal right to engage in such a program. During the last year of his second administration, however, President Eisenhower signed into law a bill:

" . . . that for the first time establishes as a legislative policy for the management of the national forests, the principle of multiple use."⁹

Although 15 of Indiana's State Parks are in southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle and although the State Parks Division has been effective with its limited funds, still, during the last two decades (1940-60), the state has steadily lost its leading position in park development to more energetic and progressive states. Indiana has less than one per cent of all the land included in state parks in the United States and yet it has the responsibility of providing adequate recreational facilities for nearly four per cent of the nation's population.¹⁰ Between 1950-1960, Indiana bought only 4,401 acres of land for park expansion.¹¹ While Indiana's park acreage was increasing at a rate of about 11 per cent, its population was increasing at a rate of 18 per cent. As a result, the ratio of park acreage per million declined in Indiana during the 1950's.¹²

Potential Development

Based on population needs, Mr. Clawson has estimated that Indiana will need 640,000 acres of state park land by the year 2000.¹³ As of July 1, 1960, the state-owned land on which outdoor recreational accommoda-

tions had been and/or could have been built amounted to a total of 201,297 acres (Table 1).¹⁴

Table 1. State-Owned Land Totally or in Part Used for Outdoor Recreation (July 1, 1960)¹⁵

1. Thirty-five parks and monuments	45,126
2. Fourteen forests	117,683
3. Nine fish and game areas	35,237
4. Fourteen public fishing sites	251
5. Indiana University (Bradford Woods and Lily Woods)	201,297
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Total	201,297

The vital question today is, where can and should Indiana get an additional 439,000 acres? I believe that it can and should get most of this land in Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle. Of course small acreages for daily recreational use should be made available by the state, counties and cities. But most of the land needed and suitable for the *intermediate type of recreational area* (camping, hiking, riding, hunting, fishing, swimming and picnicking) can only be found in this Recreational Triangle. Action should be taken now to acquire this good recreational land before it too disappears as it has this last half century on Indiana's 46-mile Lake Michigan shoreline.

State Parks. Some action has been taken to expand park acreage in this Triangle. Mr. Cougill, in the State Parks Division's biennium report in 1960, requested \$75,000.00 to buy land and create a State Park surrounding Marengo Cave and another \$75,000.00 to develop basic facilities in this park.¹⁶

A proposal to buy land for park purposes and to create a seven-mile-long lake in Sugar Creek between Turkey Run and Shades State Parks is under study. The reported multiple purpose reservoir would be used primarily for flood control and recreation.

On September 9, 1961, Indiana's 23rd State Park, The Raccoon Lake State Park, was dedicated by Governor Matthew E. Welsh. This is a six hundred acre park located on a wooded peninsula in the 2,100-acre lake called the Mansfield Flood Control Reservoir.¹⁷

Indiana's Division of Parks has plans to expand accommodations on the land it owns. The 1960 Division of Parks report showed a request of \$931,000 for "Capital Project Requests and Rehabilitation." "The 1961 session of the Indiana legislature did not approve any specific money for any specific construction work. Instead, they approved \$400,000 for improvements in the entire state park and state memorial system for the 1961-63 Biennium."¹⁸

Regardless of how efficiently and wisely this money is spent Indiana cannot expect its Division of Parks to provide "one of the finest state park systems in the nation"¹⁹ with such meager funds. During the period from July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1960, the total amount of money appropriated by the Indiana legislatures for the Division of State Parks was only \$3,624,192 or an average of only \$362,419 per year.²⁰ Furthermore during the same ten-year period the State Parks Service had an earned income of \$9,790,376.²¹ Actual expenditure during this ten-year period amounted to

\$15,320,896²² or a yearly average of \$1,532,089. In sharp contrast with this, in one year, 1961, the State of Kentucky made available 10 to 15 million dollars for the development of state parks.²³

In recent years a few county committees have been active in promoting park and recreational development. The Crawford County Rural Development initiated state action to have the Marengo Cave area made into a state park. The Clark County Planning Commission has appointed a six-member committee to make a study of future parks and playground areas. This committee has been instructed to (1) work with a committee making a study of future school sites and (2) give first consideration to the more densely populated areas.²⁴

State Forests. In spite of the inadequacies of Indiana's outdoor recreational facilities for its present population, during the 1940's and 1950's the meager existing recreational accommodations in the state forests were left to deteriorate while appropriations for the development of new ones were almost nil.

In Bedford, Indiana, on December 17, 1960, it was estimated that "needed public improvements in Indiana state forests during the biennium of July 1, 1961-June 30, 1963, would cost \$860,500."²⁵ But the 1961 session of the Indiana legislature appropriated only \$400,000 of new money for the 1961-1963 biennium.²⁶ What portion of this will be spent for recreation during the next two years is not known at the present time.

Monroe Reservoir. Many people believe that the Monroe Reservoir (now under construction) will provide many new recreational accommodations and stimulate the development of others. The Indiana Flood Control and Water Resources Commission announced in September, 1961, that the district Army Corps of Engineers has established ten proposed public access sites at the Monroe Reservoir and that more than 1,700 acres of land will be used for the sites.²⁷

Although the Monroe Reservoir may not be as great a stimulant to the tourist industry as some promoters hope, it will increase recreational opportunities.²⁸

Ohio River "Chain-of-Lakes." The 42nd Annual Report of Indiana's Department of Conservation (1960) does not reveal any plans or proposals or even an active awareness of the recreational potentialities created by the construction of the Ohio River valley Chain-of-Lakes along the complete length of southern Indiana. In Indiana, these potentialities at present seem to be minimized if not neglected. The chain of five lakes will border on Indiana and occupy most of the 354 mile section of the Ohio River along the state's southern border.

These five lakes will lie end to end all the way up the Ohio River valley from Uniontown on the downstream side to above the Indiana-Ohio state boundary where it junctions with the Ohio River. The Markland dam in Switzerland County a few miles upstream from Vevay, under construction and scheduled for completion in 1962, will create a pool of water in the Ohio River approximately 95.3 miles long.²⁹ The McAlpine dam under construction at Louisville will create a pool 75.3 miles long reaching upstream to the Markland dam.³⁰ The dam to be built at Cannelton, Indiana, which is in the "initiate construction stage" of development will create a pool 113.7 miles long stretching upstream to the McAlpine dam.³¹

The dam to be constructed near Uniontown, Indiana is in the advanced planning stage and when completed will back water upstream to Newburg.³³ And a fifth dam to be constructed near Newburg will create a pool up to the Cannelton dam.

When these five dams are constructed, a chain of lakes holding enormous amounts of water could be a major contribution toward the restoration of wildlife—fish, birds and animals. And the lake surfaces can be enjoyed by various water sports.

There are indications that some of the Indiana State agencies engaged in providing recreational facilities have serious doubts and misgivings about the ultimate success of Ohio River pollution control, and, therefore, of the recreational potentialities, especially swimming, in this chain of lakes. The Division of State Parks “does not have plans to secure ‘state beaches’ on the Ohio River.”³³ Mr. Cougill points out that:

“Public access sites on lakes, small streams and rivers are acquired and developed by officials in the Dingle-Johnson Section of the Division of Fish and Game.”³⁴

According to William B. Barnes, Federal Aid Coordinator, Division of Fish and Game:

“The Division of Fish and Game does not operate state beaches. This has been the function of both the Division of State Parks and the Division of Forestry. I know of no state beaches contemplated for the Ohio River. It would appear to me that swimming in that body of water might not adhere to State Board of Health regulations.”

“At present time, our Division of Fish and Game is negotiating with the U. S. Corps of Engineers regarding the placement of access areas on the lake formed by the Markland Dam but no definite information is available at present.”³⁵

Apparently, fishing and boating in the Ohio River Chain-of-Lakes is considered feasible by Indiana’s Division of Fish and Game but not swimming and water skiing.

Mr. Wilcox, Director of the Division of Forestry, writes in reply to a personal letter which raised the question, “Does your division have plans to develop state-owned beaches along the Ohio River?”:

“I just talked with George Fassnacht of the Board of Health. He has no precedent as a guide. We both think bacterial count, muddy water, these would make swimming out of the question.”

“Also there is a real practical objection. Beaches should have a stable water level line. That Ohio River goes up and down like an escalator, 10’-20’ is not a bit uncommon. Leaves, logs, mud and trash all over our Harrison boat launching site and access road. It’s a — mess after high water.”³⁶

In contrast with the negative opinions just presented, the annual reports of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission continue to stress the control of pollution to a degree where wading, swimming and water skiing will be possible the entire length of the river. The *8th Annual Report* published in 1956 devoted pages 18 and 19 to “Water-Use Data” and showed a half-page picture of people enjoying swimming in the Ohio River. The caption reads as follows:

“Cruising down the river on a Saturday afternoon—with time out for some sunning and swimming—it is now inviting the attention of some 14,000 boatowners in the Cincinnati area alone.

A few miles above this scene the first of Cincinnati's sewage-treatment works went into operation two years ago."³⁷

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission's *Chronicle of the Twelfth Year* carries an 8.5 inch wide picture showing recreation on the banks of the Ohio River with the caption:

"Clean rivers are enhancing recreational opportunities in the Ohio Valley. Pictured here is part of the estimated 65,000 people at hydroplane race regatta at Madison, Indiana, on October 3, 1960. During the four-month period starting June 1, the U. S. Coast Guard issued notices covering 34 regattas or ski shows, 26 of which were conducted on the main stem of the Ohio River and eight on tributaries."³⁸

In answer to an inquiry concerning swimming and other recreational activities in the Ohio River, Mr. Cleary, who is Executive Director and Chief Engineer for the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission, writes:

"About swimming potentials: for the past four years I have operated a cruiser on the Ohio River, spending many happy hours with my family in the area between Cincinnati and Louisville. We swim in the river wherever fancy indicates—off the boat or from beaches on either the Indiana or Kentucky shores. It's wonderful! And I note the Clearys are not alone in benefitting from progress being made in the crusade for clean streams."³⁹

Some people are unaware of the progress made in pollution control during the last 13 years by the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission. "By June 30, 1959, purification plants to serve 95 per cent of the 3.6 million people living in municipalities adjacent to the river were either in operation or nearing completion."⁴⁰ It is reported that the river is becoming clean enough that bass are caught again in some stretches of the river, and that other species prized by anglers are increasing.⁴¹

Moreover, with recreation as one of the river's multiple uses, the Corps of Army Engineers are practicing long-ranged planning in the construction of high permanent dams on the Ohio River. They will install unique small-boat mooring cables in the auxiliary locks. Pleasure craft then can tie to a 150-foot-long stainless steel cable which rides up and down in the locks on floating mooring belts. This is a major safety and time-saving device.⁴²

In addition, these engineers are planning embayment launching and boat servicing areas near the mouths of certain tributary streams which will flow into the Markland Reservoir. Anglers with boats may launch their craft in the same access areas. Such landing and servicing areas will be turned over to local or county governments for operation in compliance with regulations which have proven beneficial for several decades.⁴³

The creation of this Ohio River Chain-of-Lakes raises anew the old problem of water ownership. About 175 years ago Kentucky was granted ownership of all the Ohio River channel to the low water point on the north bank. After the lakes are created parts of Indiana's territory will be permanently flooded. Substantial areas of the new lakes will be in Indiana. Indiana land has been bought in Switzerland, Ohio and Dearborn counties for the Markland Reservoir.⁴⁴ Consequently, the old need to buy Kentucky fishing, hunting and boating licenses *may* no longer be necessary.

This problem should be settled around a conference table with the states of Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia represented. Representatives of these five states voted 4-1 in 1959 that the Federal government should decide what each of these five states' boating rights are under existing navigation and licensing laws.⁴⁵ Representatives from Kentucky, the state claiming ownership to the Ohio River, were opposed to this.

Downstream Boat Trips. A rather new innovation in southern Indiana's recreational program is the development of access areas along the major rivers to facilitate launching boats in which the owners can fish as the boat drifts downstream with the current. As pollution in the White, Wabash and Ohio Rivers and their tributaries is brought under control and fish return to these waters, sportsmen will come to these state owned streams. But as yet access areas where citizens have the right to launch or remove their boats as well as to park their cars and trailers are few and far between. Old privately-owned access points have been or are being rapidly closed to the public.

The Fish and Game Division of Indiana's Department of Conservation, during the fiscal year of 1959-1960, established eight public fishing sites. Although this number represents a trend in the right direction, it hardly "amounts to a drop in the bucket" when the state needs are considered.⁴⁶ During this decade many, many more public access areas need to be provided for on both rivers and lakes. As yet, the public does not have adequate access to some state-owned lakes and only a few access points on even the largest rivers.

National Monument. Indiana's first national monument may be established in Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle. In May, 1961, the Department of Interior approved a proposal by Senator Vance Hartke and Representative Winfield K. Denton (both of Indiana) to establish a national monument at Abraham Lincoln's boyhood home near Lincoln City, Indiana.⁴⁷

On September 15, 1961, the Senate amended, passed and returned to the House a bill under which a Lincoln boyhood national memorial would be established. The bill authorized an appropriation of one million dollars and limited to \$75,000 the amount the Secretary of the Department of Interior could spend from the appropriation for land.⁴⁸ If the area becomes a national monument, the Department of Interior will build and maintain first-class recreational accommodations for the expected tourists.

State Parkways. Many people would like to have some agency build more state parkways, especially in the Southern Indiana Recreational Triangle. The Brown County Parkway, extending from south of Bean Blossom to Nashville on Indiana highway 135, is the only parkway in Indiana.⁴⁹ A parkway along Sugar Creek connecting Turkey Run and Shades State Parks is in the proposal stage. The Division of State Parks "favors development of State Parkways"⁵⁰ but as yet have given higher priority to the acquisition of land for park purposes.⁵¹

National Parkway. United States Senator Vance Hartke has introduced a bill to create a Lincoln Parkway along the "trail" followed by the great president from his Kentucky birthplace to his Indiana home (where he grew from a youth into manhood) to his adult home in Illinois. Senator

Hartke reports that many senators and representatives have agreed to help him pass the bill because:

“. . . This kind of historical highway has been *delayed too long* and action in the centennial year of the Civil War is most appropriate.”⁴⁵²

Regional trails. Perhaps the lack of cooperation and coordination between state and national agencies in recreational development accounts for the lack of long “circular” regional hiking, bicycling and horseback trails. Before these trails can be put into operation there will need to be adequate hostels and horse barns at convenient places along well-marked routes. Also, where these trails of necessity cross primary highways, the cooperation of the Indiana Highway Department would need to help mark the crossings to protect the travelers. Many of the hostels and barns could be located on land already owned by the state and federal governments. But additional land should be purchased where accommodations are needed.

To set up these trails, an inter-agency committee, working with recreational specialists, should first locate suitable routes and draw up long-ranged plans for both short and long routes. It should be possible for people in any section of this Recreational Triangle to get on a hiking, bicycling or horseback trail and make a circle or loop trip from 50 to 100 or 200 or 300 miles long.

Two short hiking trails established in Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood State Forests proved very popular during the summer of 1960.⁵³ Five hiking trails and many miles of bridle trails have proven very popular at Clifty Falls State Park.⁵⁴ What is needed now are the longer loop or circular trails which will connect the various state parks, state monuments, state forests and other natural and historical points of interest.

The writer believes the time for developing facilities for circular hiking, bicycling and horseback trails is long overdue. We should make a modest start by establishing a few shorter routes as “pilot projects” as soon as feasible.

Suggestions for Accelerated Expansion

Although in the next 25 years Southern Indiana’s Recreational Triangle may become the largest outdoor recreational center in Indiana, and perhaps one of the largest in the Ohio River watershed, this is a part of Indiana and regional development should be correlated with all activities in the state. In February, 1961, I made some of the following suggestions to accelerate expansion of outdoor recreational facilities in Indiana and they appear as valid now as they were then. In fact these suggestions if followed would bring a greater growth to Southern Indiana’s Recreational Triangle than to any other section of the state:

1. Between 1963-1973, the Indiana legislature should provide a land-purchase fund of 2.5 million dollars to be used by the Division of Parks in creating new state parks and parkways and enlarging the ones now in operation. This money should be appropriated at the rate of half a million dollars per biennium. The money should be spent as opportunities become available and need not be spent before 1980.

2. During this same ten-year period (1963-1973), the Indiana legislature should provide a half million dollar land-purchase fund to be used by the Division of Forestry to enlarge present state forests and/or develop new ones. This money should be appropriated at the rate of 100,000 dollars per biennium with the understanding that none of it can be spent on the purchase of stripped coal mine land or land pitted with quarries. There should be an understanding that the money could remain in the fund until 1980 rather than attempting to spend all of it every biennium.
3. The Indiana legislature should at each session pass a resolution urging (1) that the United States Congress make available \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year for the purchase of land within the boundaries of the Hoosier National Forest and (2) urging that the recreational sites within the Hoosier National Forest be developed as rapidly as public needs justify.
4. A scientific survey should be made of the state forests by recreational specialists who will prepare a written inventory and appraisal of sites that can be developed for recreational purposes.
5. The Division of Parks should make a survey to determine what additional acreage should be added to existing parks, and to locate and appraise potential recreational areas which could be purchased and made into state parks.
6. Prepare a 15-year program for the development of an Outdoor Museum in the present Morgan-Monroe State Forest under the administration of the Division of Parks and State Forests. And this Outdoor Museum should not be limited to a zoo or standard city museum built in a forest.
7. Locate hiking, bicycling, horseback trails in Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle and develop adequate hostels and horse barns at convenient places along these trails.
8. The Indiana legislature should pass a resolution each session in support of the creation of a national monument in honor of Abraham Lincoln in Spencer County until such a monument becomes a reality.
9. Indiana citizens should work for a Youth Conservation Corps or Home Peace Corps both in Indianapolis and in Washington, D. C.
10. Wilderness specialists should locate and the state should establish several wilderness areas. Indiana may now have some suitable ones in its parks (especially Brown County State Park) and forests for this purpose. These wilderness areas must be *legally* established and so protected from commercialization that they will always be preserved for nature's development only.
11. A committee consisting of the Directors of the Divisions of (1) State Parks, (2) Forestry and (3) Fish and Game in Indiana's Department of Conservation should make a preliminary investigation of potential recreational opportunities which will be created by an Ohio River Chain-of-Lakes (four or five permanent lakes) and bring in a written appraisal which will either recommend *for* or *against* the employment of a recreational team to survey and

- make recommendations concerning the potential recreational opportunities of this chain-of-lakes.
12. Indiana citizens and governmental agencies should participate in and support interstate organizations so necessary to implement conservation projects which cover more than one state. The Wabash River Compact and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact⁵⁵ are examples of this type of cooperation.
 13. Citizens interested in recreational development should realize: (1) that the *recreational use* of "flood control-low flow regulation" reservoirs must be a *secondary and minor use* and (2) the limited facilities available at this type of reservoir can never supply sufficient accommodations on which to build a great tourist industry.

Action During 1960's Vital

Indiana might well follow the rapid expansion programs of outdoor recreational development found in the adjacent states of Kentucky and Michigan. Each year recreational development costs more and it is estimated that the cost "doubles about every 10 years."⁵⁶ Can Indiana afford to delay?

At least two and perhaps four of the five Ohio River Chain-of-Lakes along southern Indiana will be completed during this decade. To attempt to develop state-owned facilities along these lakes after completion may be impossible and, if not impossible, more costly and impractical.

Will Southern Indiana's citizens during the 1960's use their technology and know-how to develop and wisely use the now latent and underdeveloped resources of forest, water and recreation, or will they continue to apathetically acquiesce to a declining economy, an outward migrating population, and the establishment of a permanently depressed area where work is not available for some youth or adults during the summer or throughout the year?

If the problem is recognized and all the resources of Indiana utilized, the 1960's might go down in history as one of the greatest of water, forest and recreational development in the history of Indiana. Or this generation may do little or nothing during the next decade in the way of conservation and be judged an abject failure by our descendants.

We should consider prayerfully for a few minutes the following words of a wise poet:

The moving finger writes and having writ
 Moves on: nor all the Piety nor Wit
 Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
 Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

When this decade of the 1960's ends and the moving finger writes an evaluation of our development of Southern Indiana's Recreational Triangle, will it write *success* or *failure*?

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