



July 7, 2022

Ms. Angel Gochee-Goins Friends of the Dunes Board of Directors 1000 West Oak Hill Rd Porter, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: 574 586 3400

Fax: 574 586 3446

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Gochee-Goins,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

The project is located within Sections 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 24 of Township 27 North Range 5 West and the Dunes Acres and Michigan City West 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangles, Porter County, Indiana (see attached Figure 1). The Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment will be a non-motorized bike/pedestrian trail that will be located within the Indiana Dunes National Park, Porter County, Indiana. The western terminus of the trail is located on the east side IN-49, approximately 550 ft south of its intersection with US 12 (approximately 41.642070, -87.064188) and will end on the western side of Lake Shore County Road, approximately 425 ft north of US 12 (approximately 41.679843, -86.971119).

The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

Please provide your response within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Tamara Miller, Environmental Preparer, Cardno (email: tamara.miller@cardno.com, phone: 317.388.1982) or Glenn Peterson, Project Manager, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (email: gpeterson@sehinc.com, phone: 219.513.2511). Thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Ms. Christie Stanifer
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Room W264, IGC South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Ms. Stanifer,

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Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

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Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. David Snodgrass Indiana Department of Natural Resources Indiana Dunes State Park 1600 N 25 E Chesterton, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: 574 586 3400 Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Mr. Snodgrass,

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Janny Miller

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

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Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. Blake Swihart Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office 541 South Lake Street Gary-Miller Beach, IN 46403

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Mr. Swihart,

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July 7, 2022

Mr. Gary Brown Izaak Walton League of America Porter County Chapter 1288 N County Line Rd, Michigan City, IN 46360

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Mr. Brown,

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Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

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Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Ms. Jill Tabor NIPSCO Survey & Land 801 East 86ths Avenue Merrillville, IN 46410

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Ms. Tabor,

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708 Roosevelt Road

Walkerton, IN 46572

Phone: 574 586 3400 Fax: 574 586 3446

USA

July 7, 2022

Mr. Ty Warner Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission 6100 Southport Road Portage, IN 46368

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail -

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Warner.

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. Jim Polarek Porter County Highway Department 1955 S SR 2 Valparaiso, IN 46368

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: 574 586 3400

Fax: 574 586 3446

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Polarek,

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Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Ms. Betsy Maher Save the Dunes 444 Barker Road Michigan City, IN 46360

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Maher,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Land use within the study area includes forested areas, existing gravel and paved trails, old roadbeds, local roads, wetlands, fallow fields, and several Park-owned buildings and public use areas. A regulated waters and wetlands delineation and a biological assessment has been completed to identify any ecological resources that may be present. Based on the preliminary trail alignment, approximately 1 acre of trees would be cleared (outside of active bat season). Cardno and the NPS are currently investigating the areas of ground disturbance for archaeological and historic resources for Section 106 compliance. The results of this investigation will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Native American Tribes/Nations for review and concurrence. The County is working with the NPS on the trail alignment to minimize and avoid impacts to the environment.

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

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Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





708 Roosevelt Road

Walkerton, IN 46572

Phone: 574 586 3400 Fax: 574 586 3446

USA

July 7, 2022

Mr. Kris Krouse Shirley Heinze Land Trust 109 West 700 North Valparaiso, IN 46385

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail -

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Krouse.

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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July 7, 2022

South Shore Trails

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Dear Sir or Madam,

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

The project is located within Sections 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 24 of Township 27 North Range 5 West and the Dunes Acres and Michigan City West 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangles, Porter County, Indiana (see attached Figure 1). The Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment will be a non-motorized bike/pedestrian trail that will be located within the Indiana Dunes National Park, Porter County, Indiana. The western terminus of the trail is located on the east side IN-49, approximately 550 ft south of its intersection with US 12 (approximately 41.642070, -87.064188) and will end on the western side of Lake Shore County Road, approximately 425 ft north of US 12 (approximately 41.679843, -86.971119).

The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

Land use within the study area includes forested areas, existing gravel and paved trails, old roadbeds, local roads, wetlands, fallow fields, and several Park-owned buildings and public use areas. A regulated waters and wetlands delineation and a biological assessment has been completed to identify any ecological resources that may be present. Based on the preliminary trail alignment, approximately 1 acre of trees would be cleared (outside of active bat season). Cardno and the NPS are currently investigating the areas of ground disturbance for archaeological and historic resources for Section 106 compliance. The results of this investigation will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Native American Tribes/Nations for review and concurrence. The County is working with the NPS on the trail alignment to minimize and avoid impacts to the environment.

Please provide your response within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Tamara Miller, Environmental Preparer, Cardno (email: tamara.miller@cardno.com, phone: 317.388.1982) or

Glenn Peterson, Project Manager, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (email: gpeterson@sehinc.com, phone: 219.513.2511). Thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Janny Miles

Tammy Miller Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Ms. Carol Ruzic The Beverly Shores Museum & Art Gallery 525 South Broadway Beverly Shores, IN 46301

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Ruzic,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

Land use within the study area includes forested areas, existing gravel and paved trails, old roadbeds, local roads, wetlands, fallow fields, and several Park-owned buildings and public use areas. A regulated waters and wetlands delineation and a biological assessment has been completed to identify any ecological resources that may be present. Based on the preliminary trail alignment, approximately 1 acre of trees would be cleared (outside of active bat season). Cardno and the NPS are currently investigating the areas of ground disturbance for archaeological and historic resources for Section 106 compliance. The results of this investigation will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Native American Tribes/Nations for review and concurrence. The County is working with the NPS on the trail alignment to minimize and avoid impacts to the environment.

Walkerton, IN 46572 USA Phone: 574 586 3400

708 Roosevelt Road

Fax: 574 586 3400

Please provide your response within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Tamara Miller, Environmental Preparer, Cardno (email: tamara.miller@cardno.com, phone: 317.388.1982) or Glenn Peterson, Project Manager, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (email: gpeterson@sehinc.com, phone: 219.513.2511). Thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. Geof Benson Town of Beverly Shores Town Council 500 South Broadway Beverly Shores, IN 46301

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Mr. Benson,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

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Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Marshal Ed Clapp Town of Beverly Shores Police Department 500 South Broadway Beverly Shores, IN 46301

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Marshal Clapp,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Chief Andy Himan Sr. Town of Beverly Shores Fire Department 500 South Broadway Beverly Shores, IN 46301

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: **574 586 3400** Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Chief Himan Sr.,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

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Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. James Spanier Town of Porter Public Works 550 W Beam Street Porter, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: 574 586 3400

Fax: 574 586 3446

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Spanier,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. David Phillips Town of Porter Town Council 1608 Waverly Rd Porter, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: 574 586 3400 Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Mr. Phillips,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location





July 7, 2022

Mr. Paul Leffler U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District 231 S LaSalle St., Suite 1500 Chicago, IL 60604

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: 574 586 3400

Fax: 574 586 3446

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail –

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Leffler,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location



now



July 7, 2022

Ms. Elizabeth McClosky U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Nortern Indiana Suboffice P.O. Box 2616 Chesterton, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Phone: 574 586 3400

Fax: 574 586 3446

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail -

Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Dear Ms. McClosky,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

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July 7, 2022 Page 2 of 2

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Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

Janny Miles

Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location

Photographs



now



July 7, 2022

Porter County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Bureau 1215 N. State Road 49 Porter, IN 46304

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton, IN 46572 USA

Subject: Early Coordination Letter, Porter County, Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment, Porter County, Indiana

Phone: 574 586 3400 Fax: 574 586 3446

Dear Sir or Madam,

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to grant a right-of-way easement to Porter County (County) to reroute a segment of the existing Calumet Trail from a utility corridor to a new alignment through Indiana Dunes National Park (Park). The proposed project is located within NPS property and as a result is being evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in general accordance with NPS guidance and procedures. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process for the NPS. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

The project is located within Sections 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 24 of Township 27 North Range 5 West and the Dunes Acres and Michigan City West 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangles, Porter County, Indiana (see attached Figure 1). The Marquette Greenway Trail – Calumet Segment will be a non-motorized bike/pedestrian trail that will be located within the Indiana Dunes National Park, Porter County, Indiana. The western terminus of the trail is located on the east side IN-49, approximately 550 ft south of its intersection with US 12 (approximately 41.642070, -87.064188) and will end on the western side of Lake Shore County Road, approximately 425 ft north of US 12 (approximately 41.679843, -86.971119).

The existing Calumet Trail is a segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail; a three-state trail initiative to build a 60-mile-long trail from Chicago to New Buffalo, Michigan (State Visionary Trail System). The County is proposing to relocate the Calumet Trail from a utility corridor owned by NIPSCO to the Park on a new alignment that is approximately 6.8 miles long. This American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant, non-motorized (bike/pedestrian) trail is anticipated to be a 10-ft wide, asphalt trail with 2-ft aggregate shoulders. There are no additional trail amenities (such as permanent or temporary lighting) being proposed for this segment of the Marquette Greenway Trail. The proposed, new alignment will traverse undisturbed areas as well as existing roads and trails. It is estimated that limits of disturbance will be 20-ft wide. Currently, construction of the proposed project has an anticipated start date of Spring 2023.

Land use within the study area includes forested areas, existing gravel and paved trails, old roadbeds, local roads, wetlands, fallow fields, and several Park-owned buildings and public use areas. A regulated waters and wetlands delineation and a biological assessment has been completed to identify any ecological resources that may be present. Based on the preliminary trail alignment, approximately 1 acre of trees would be cleared (outside of active bat season). Cardno and the NPS are currently investigating the areas of ground disturbance for archaeological and historic resources for Section 106 compliance. The results of this investigation will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Native American Tribes/Nations for review and concurrence. The County is working with the NPS on the trail alignment to minimize and avoid impacts to the environment.

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Please provide your response within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Tamara Miller, Environmental Preparer, Cardno (email: tamara.miller@cardno.com, phone: 317.388.1982) or Glenn Peterson, Project Manager, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (email: gpeterson@sehinc.com, phone: 219.513.2511). Thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Tammy Miller

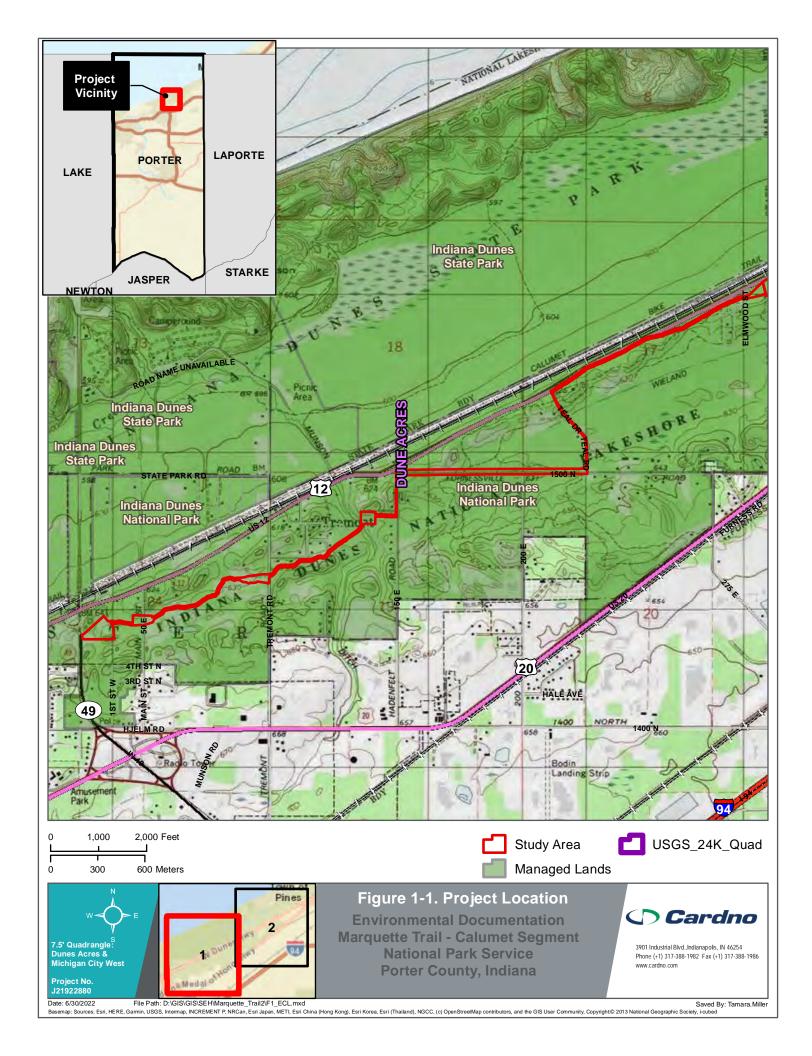
Janny Miles

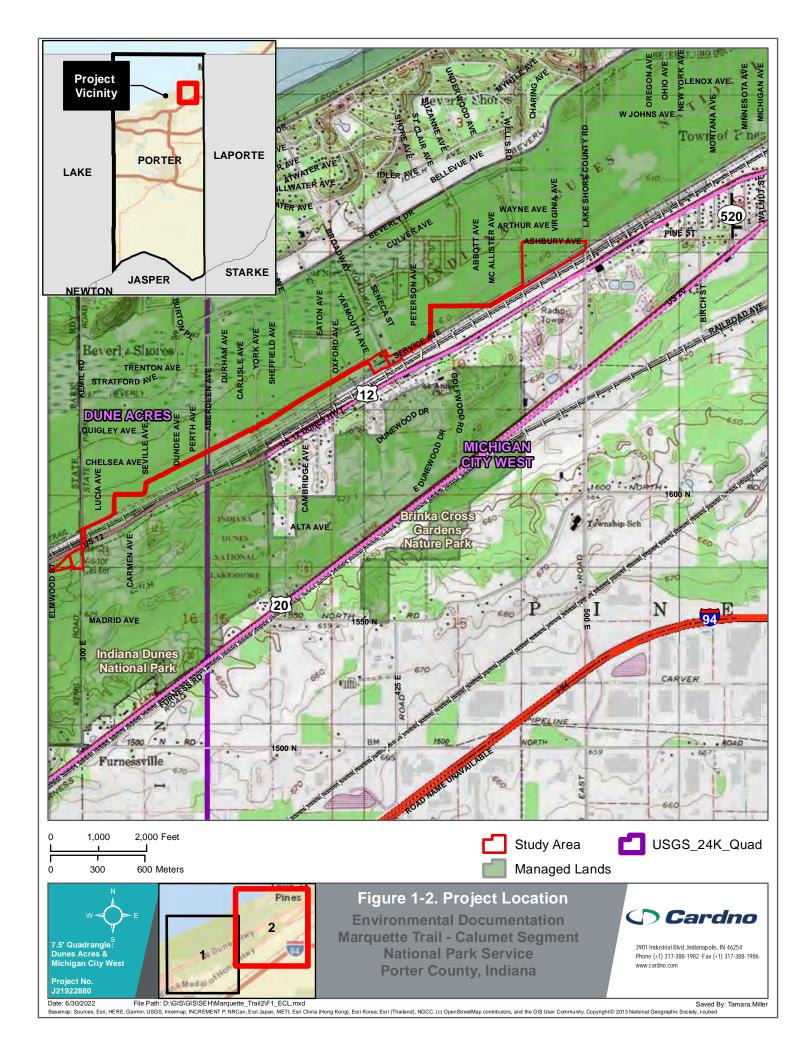
Project Scientist Cardno now Stantec

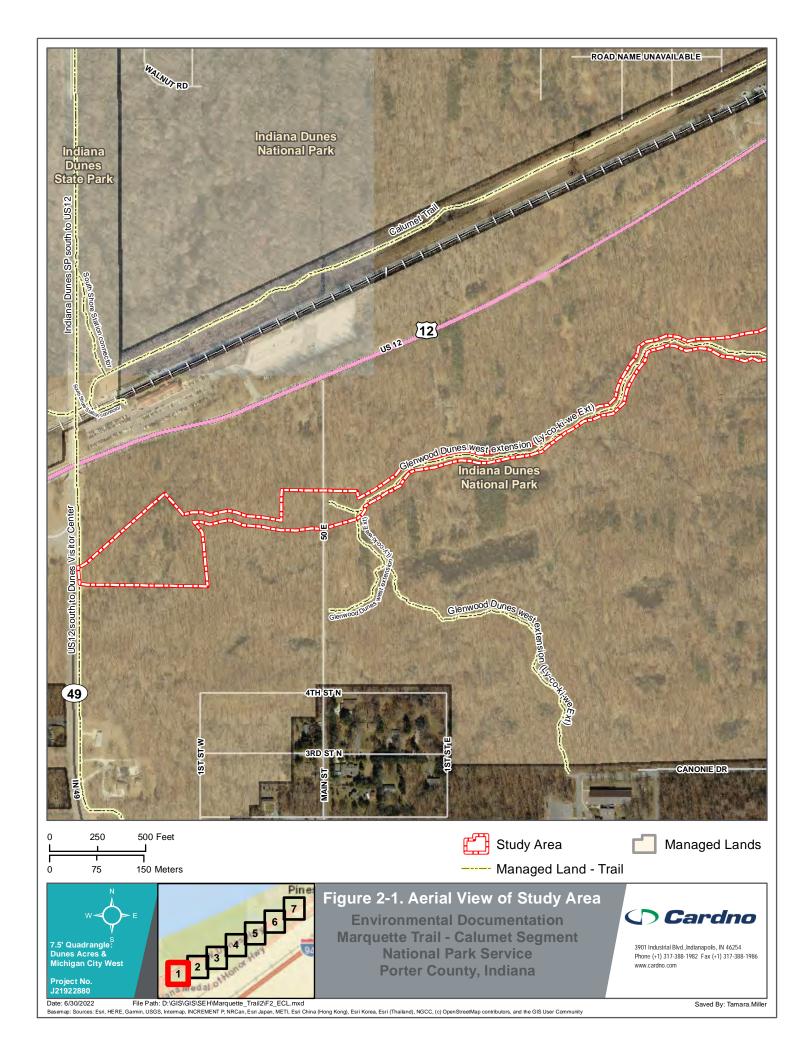
Enc: Figure 1. Project Location

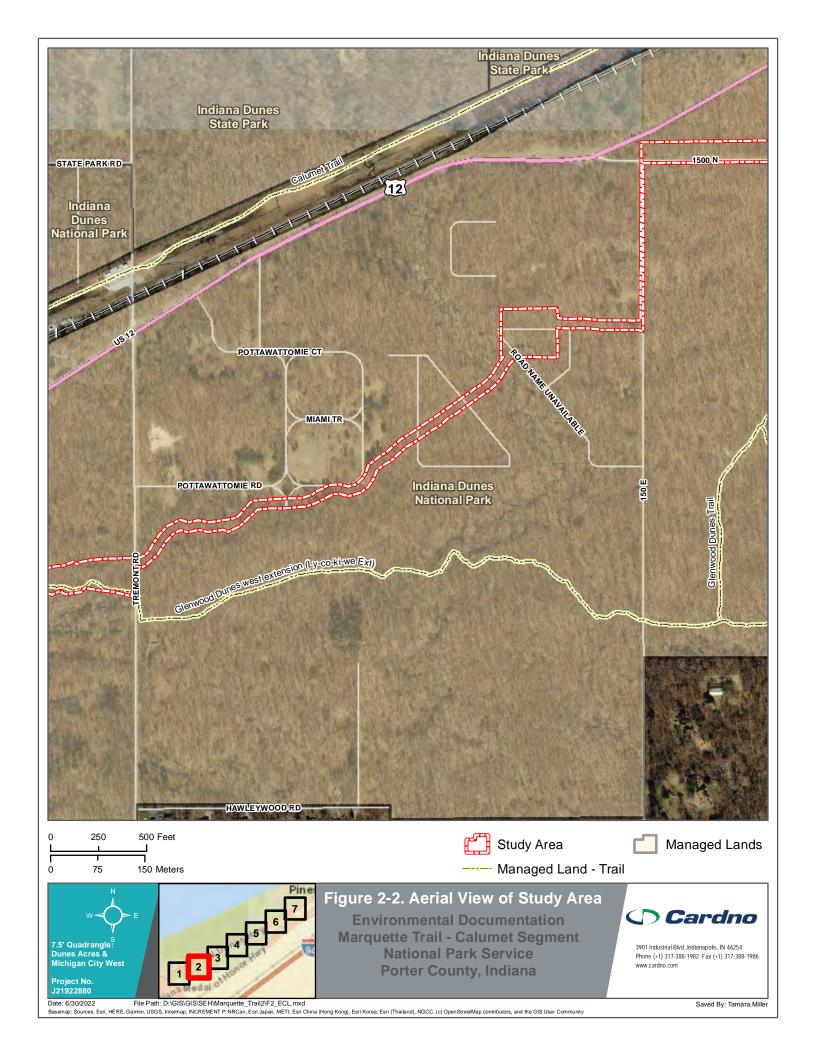
Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Location

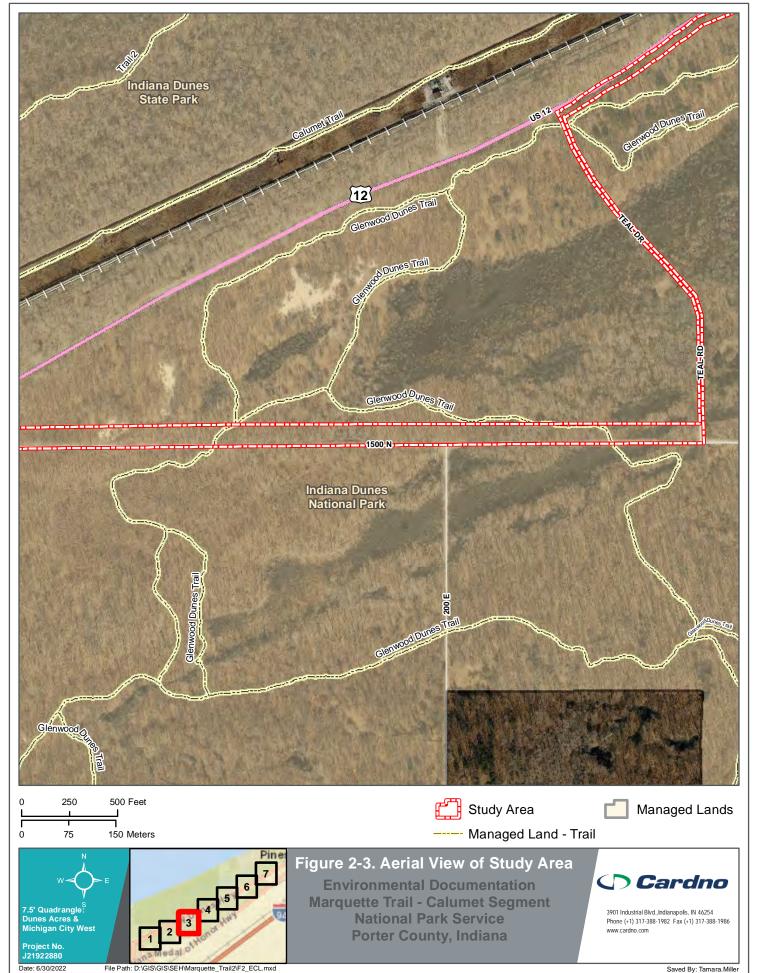
Photographs











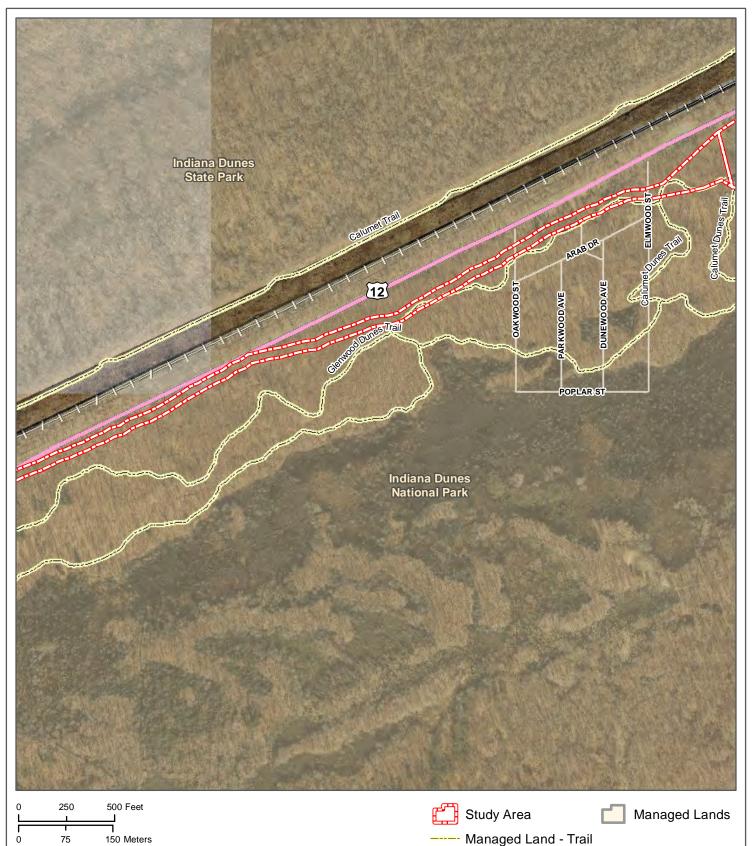




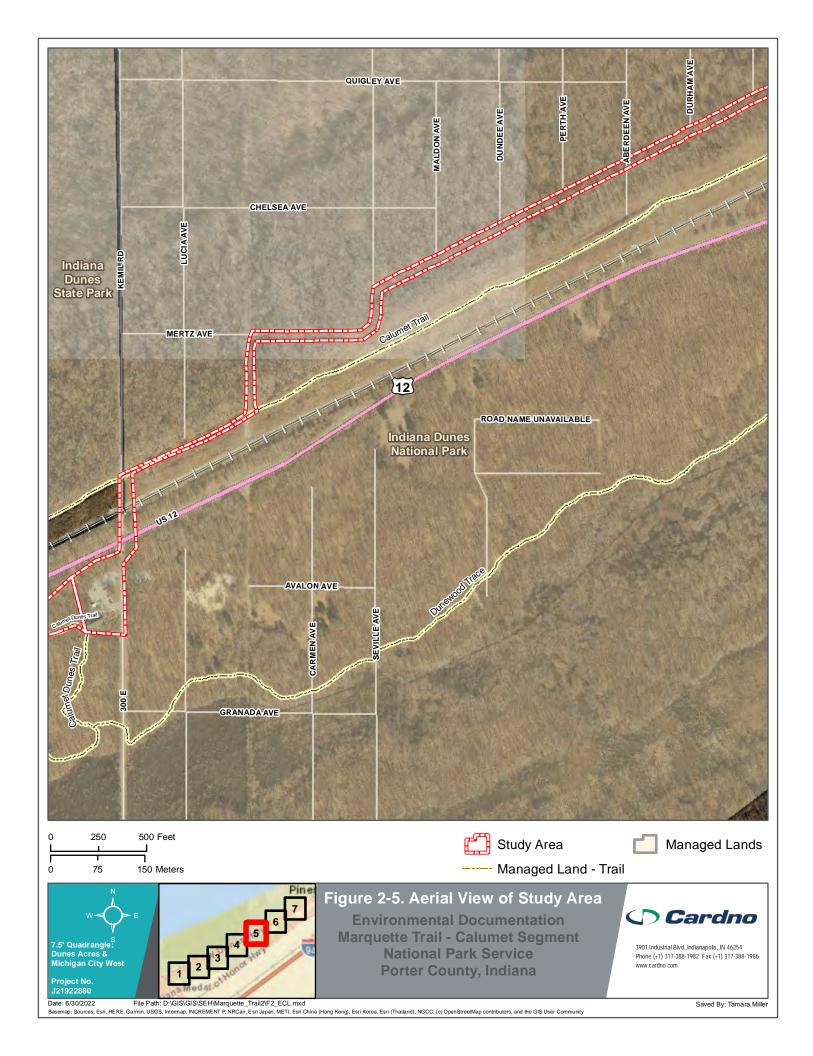
Figure 2-4. Aerial View of Study Area

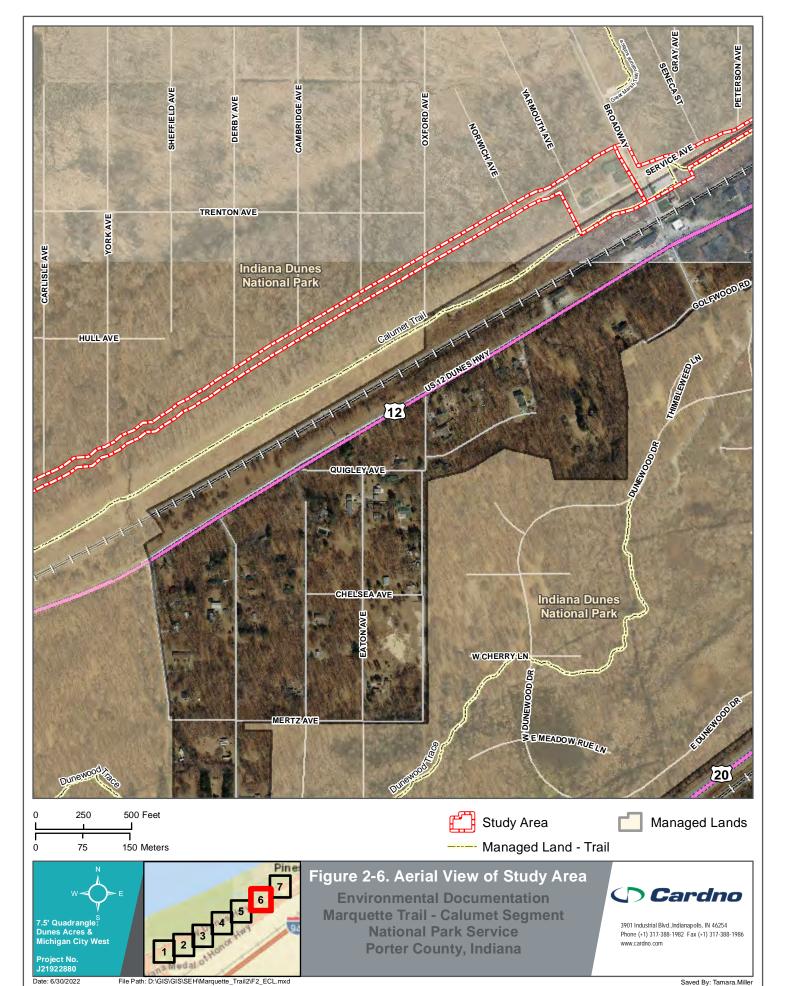
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Saved By: Tamara.Miller





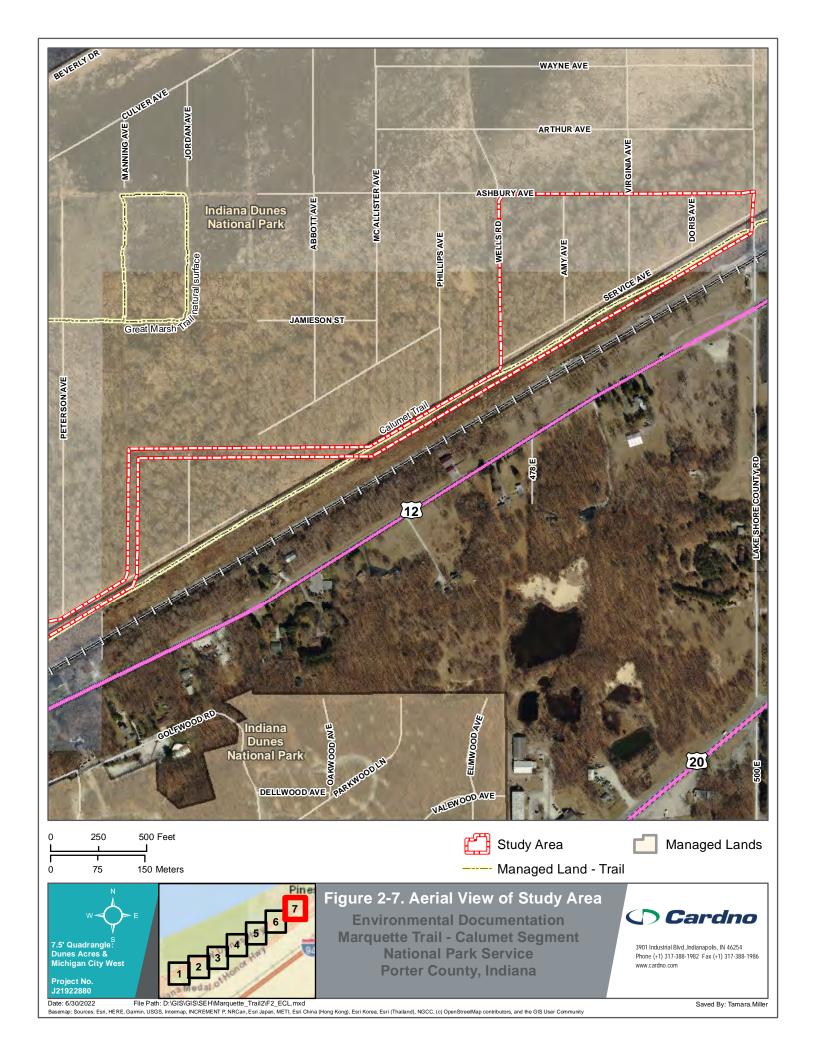




Figure 3 - 01. Western view of trail off N County Rd 150 E. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 - 03. Eastern view of existing trail. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 - 02. Eastern view of trail off N County Rd 150 E. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 – 04. Upstream view of Dunes Creek from trail. April 7, 2022.

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Figure 3 - 05. Downstream view of Dunes Creek from trail. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 - 07. Eastern view of existing trail. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 - 06. 29. Eastern view of existing trail. April 7, 2022.



Figure 3 – 08. Trail end at N County Rd 50E. April 7, 2022.

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