

East Sandusky Bay Water Trail Fact Sheet

Blueway trail planned for Sandusky Bay

The City of Sandusky and Erie MetroParks are planning a 15 mile water trail around the East Sandusky Bay that will be open in the summer of 2007.

The proposed East Sandusky Bay Water Trail will provide many of the seven million annual Sandusky area visitors the opportunity to enjoy the scenic views, cultural history and great recreational opportunities from a unique view known only to a few. This eco-tourism concept will provide another option for people to bask in the recreational opportunities offered along the waterfront in and along Sandusky Bay and Lake Erie.

What is a Water Trail?

By definition, a water trail, also known as a blueway, is a route along a river or across other bodies of water, such as a lake or salt

water, for people using small beachable boats like kayaks, canoes, day sailers or rowboats. Water trails are most often identified by the land facilities that support water travel. These include launch and landing sites (trailheads), campsites, rest areas, and other points of interest. On land, trails have distinct surfaces or walkways, while on water the entire water surface is constantly changing with flow, current, boat wakes and wind.



Scenic views in the East Sandusky Bay

Premier Paddle Planned

The City and MetroParks have already begun to plan for the official dedication of the water trail, set for June 2, 2007 at 1 pm. Festivities will begin at the Big Island Preserve and Landing. Planners are looking for participants to take part in the First Paddle event shortly after the dedication that day.

New Blueway may be an Ohio Water Trail

Staff from the City of Sandusky and Erie MetroParks met with staff from ODNR, Division of Watercraft on February 22, 2007 to discuss the possibility of an official designation of the East Sandusky Bay Water Trail as an Ohio Water Trail. The partnering members felt very positive at the conclusion of the meeting that the East Bay Trail could be the third official Water Trail in the state, and the only Water Trail on a Lake Erie area bay in Ohio.



OHIO
DEPARTMENT
of NATURAL
RESOURCES

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For More Information

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City of Sandusky Parks, Recreation & Horticultural Services

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Supported By



East Sandusky Bay Water Trail

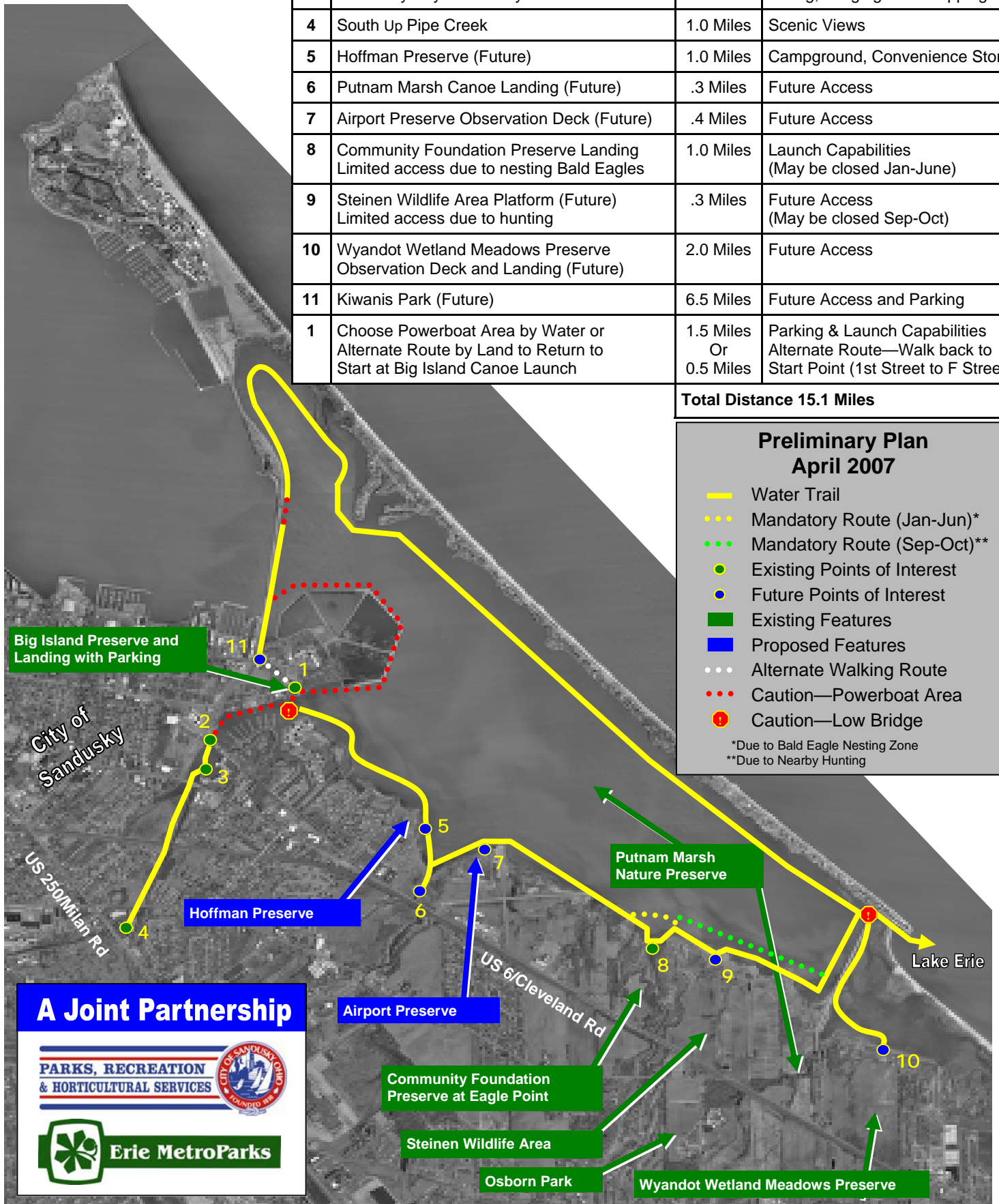
#	Name	Distance	Information
1	Big Island Preserve & Canoe Launch	Start	Parking & Launch Capabilities
2	Pipe Creek View Point	.2 Miles	Fishing
3	Castaway Bay/TGI Fridays	.9 Miles	Dining, Lodging and Shopping
4	South Up Pipe Creek	1.0 Miles	Scenic Views
5	Hoffman Preserve (Future)	1.0 Miles	Campground, Convenience Store
6	Putnam Marsh Canoe Landing (Future)	.3 Miles	Future Access
7	Airport Preserve Observation Deck (Future)	.4 Miles	Future Access
8	Community Foundation Preserve Landing Limited access due to nesting Bald Eagles	1.0 Miles	Launch Capabilities (May be closed Jan-June)
9	Steinen Wildlife Area Platform (Future) Limited access due to hunting	.3 Miles	Future Access (May be closed Sep-Oct)
10	Wyandot Wetland Meadows Preserve Observation Deck and Landing (Future)	2.0 Miles	Future Access
11	Kiwanis Park (Future)	6.5 Miles	Future Access and Parking
1	Choose Powerboat Area by Water or Alternate Route by Land to Return to Start at Big Island Canoe Launch	1.5 Miles Or 0.5 Miles	Parking & Launch Capabilities Alternate Route—Walk back to Start Point (1st Street to F Street)

Total Distance 15.1 Miles

Preliminary Plan April 2007

- Water Trail
- ⋯ Mandatory Route (Jan-Jun)*
- ⋯ Mandatory Route (Sep-Oct)**
- Existing Points of Interest
- Future Points of Interest
- Existing Features
- Proposed Features
- ⋯ Alternate Walking Route
- ⋯ Caution—Powerboat Area
- ! Caution—Low Bridge

*Due to Bald Eagle Nesting Zone
**Due to Nearby Hunting



Big Island Preserve and Landing with Parking

City of Sandusky

US-250 Milan Rd

Hoffman Preserve

Airport Preserve

Putnam Marsh Nature Preserve

Lake Erie

US-6/Cleveland Rd

A Joint Partnership

PARKS, RECREATION & HORTICULTURAL SERVICES



Erie MetroParks

Community Foundation Preserve at Eagle Point

Steinen Wildlife Area

Osborn Park

Wyandot Wetland Meadows Preserve