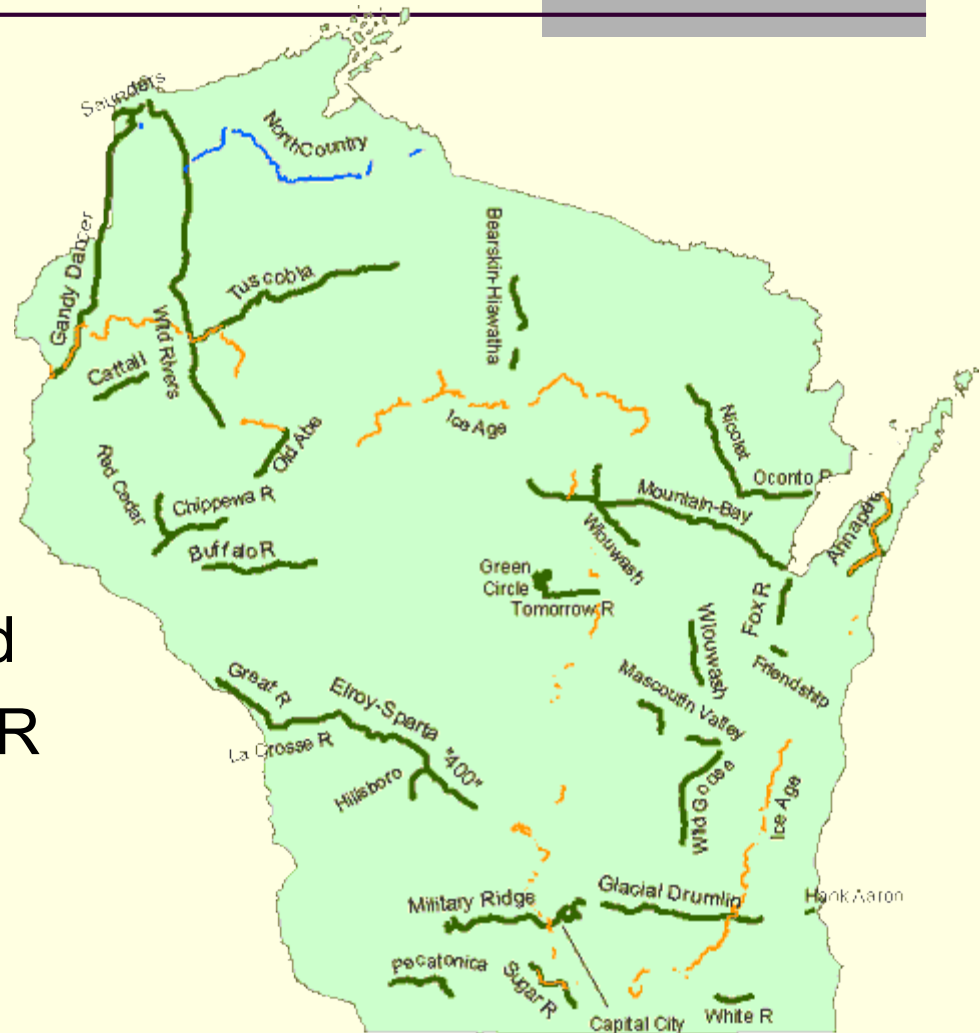


Wisconsin's State Trails

Presentation to the
Wisconsin Legislative Council's
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STATE TRAILS POLICY
October 5, 2006

Wisconsin's 42 linear State Trails

- 1,681 miles of State Trail open to the public
- 22 State Trails require a State Trail Pass
- 25 State Trails operated by partners, 15 by the DNR
- Two State Trails are National Scenic Trails



State Trails Network Plan

- Vision of interconnected linear, off-road trails for multiple uses to serve as main corridors for a statewide trail system



- When potential corridors become available, DNR works to acquire them

WI State Trail Users



Governor's State Trails Council

- Senate Bill 31 created the Governor's State Trails Council (STC) in 1989.
- State Statute 15.347(16) establishes STC as a nine-member council appointed by the Governor for four-year terms.

STC Membership

- Mike McFadzen
Chair, Cross Country Skiing
- David W. Phillips
Vice-Chair, Hiking/Walking
- Ken L. Carpenter
Secretary, Equestrians
- Alison Dwyer
Bicycling
- Randy Harden
Off-Highway Vehicles
- Tom Huber
Wi Department of Transportation
- Ramsey A.R. Lee
Disabled Users
- Martha Schouweiler
Water Trails
- Tom Thornton
Snowmobiling



Role of STC

- Provide a voice for trail user groups and individuals in the statewide trails program.
- Provide advice and consultation to the DNR:
 - planning
 - acquisition
 - development
 - Management/policy
- Help Wisconsin qualify for Recreational Trails Program funding

Issues

- Demand



SCORP

- **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**

- 2005-2010

- classify, measure, and ultimately provide for the preferences and needs of a statewide recreating public



SCORP

- Identified five major issues:
 - Multiple recreational activities are competing for the same limited recreation resources
 - Changing land uses, ownership, and regulations reduce recreational opportunities and diminish resource quality
 - Financial resources are increasingly strained to meet costs of operating and maintaining recreation resources
 - Overall, people lack outdoor skills and ethics and knowledge of available outdoor opportunities
 - DNR should provide leadership in planning for outdoor recreation opportunities

Demand

Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Participants by Activity (Age 16+)

Activity	Percent Participating	Number of Participants (1,000s)
Walk for pleasure	85.8	3,567
Bicycling	49.3	2,049
Day hiking	35.0	1,455
Running or jogging	29.4	1,222
Off-road driving with an ATV	23.4	973
Mountain biking (off-road)	20.4	848
Inline skating	20.0	831
Trail running	18.6	773
Snowmobiling	18.3	761
Mountain biking (single track)	18.0	748
Skiing - cross country	11.4	474
Horseback riding (any type)	9.8	407
Horseback riding on trails	8.1	337
Snowshoeing	8.0	333
Backpacking	6.9	287
Off-road motorcycling	5.9	245
Dog sledding	1.1	46

Conflict

Table 4-2: Average Land-Based Recreation Activity Compatibility Ratings ^{a b}

PRIMARY USE:	INTERACTS:										
	ATV Riding	Hunting	Snowmobiling	Horseback Riding	Mountain Biking	Cross-Country Skiing	Linear Trail Biking	Hiking	Wildlife Watching	Camping	Average Compatibility
ATV Riding	X	5.3	6.5	5.1	5.5	4.9	5.5	6.1	6.9	7.5	6.0
Hunting	3.3	X	3.7	4.7	4.3	5.3	5.7	5.4	6.0	6.3	5.0
Snowmobiling	4.3	4.0	X	4.0	4.8	4.3	5.8	5.3	6.3	7.2	5.1
Horseback Riding	2.2	3.5	3.0	X	3.8	4.9	4.5	6.3	7.3	7.7	4.8
Mountain Biking	3.1	3.6	4.7	4.8	X	5.7	8.1	6.1	7.4	8.0	5.7
Cross-Country Skiing	1.8	3.6	2.6	3.3	4.2	X	5.6	4.9	8.1	8.5	4.7
Linear Trail Biking	2.6	3.9	5.5	5.3	8.2	7.1	X	7.4	8.0	8.7	6.3
Hiking	2.4	3.5	3.5	5.7	4.7	6.1	6.5	X	8.9	9.2	5.6
Wildlife Watching	2.2	3.2	2.9	6.4	5.2	7.6	6.8	8.6	X	8.3	5.7
Camping	3.9	4.1	5.0	7.5	7.8	8.2	8.2	8.9	8.5	X	6.9
Average Compatibility	2.9	3.9	4.2	5.2	5.4	6	6.3	6.6	7.5	7.9	

a. Compatibility ratings are for how column activity interacts with the row activity. Ratings should therefore be read horizontally across rows.

b. Ratings below 4.0 (highly competitive or antagonistic) are highlighted in red, ratings between 4.0 and below 7.0 are highlighted in yellow (moderately to mildly competitive), and ratings 7.0 (supplementary or complementary) and above are highlighted in green. Results are based on responses from 23 Wisconsin recreation professionals.



Issues

- Demand
- **Policy infrastructure**



Issues

- Demand
- Policy infrastructure
- **Funding**

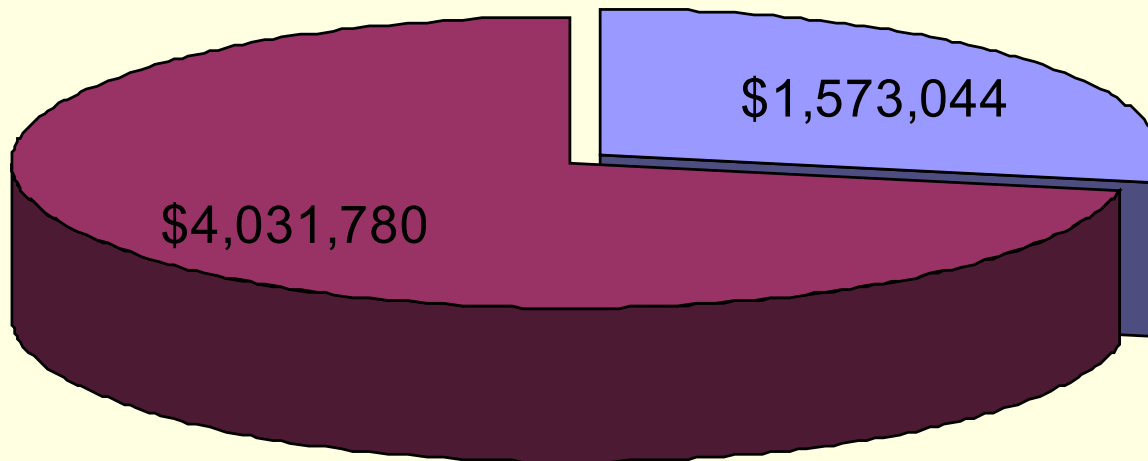


Recreational Trails Program

- STC serves as WI's recreational trail advisory committee for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).
- RTP is a federal trail funding program.
- A recreational trail advisory committee is required for a state to receive RTP funds.

ATV Program Funds

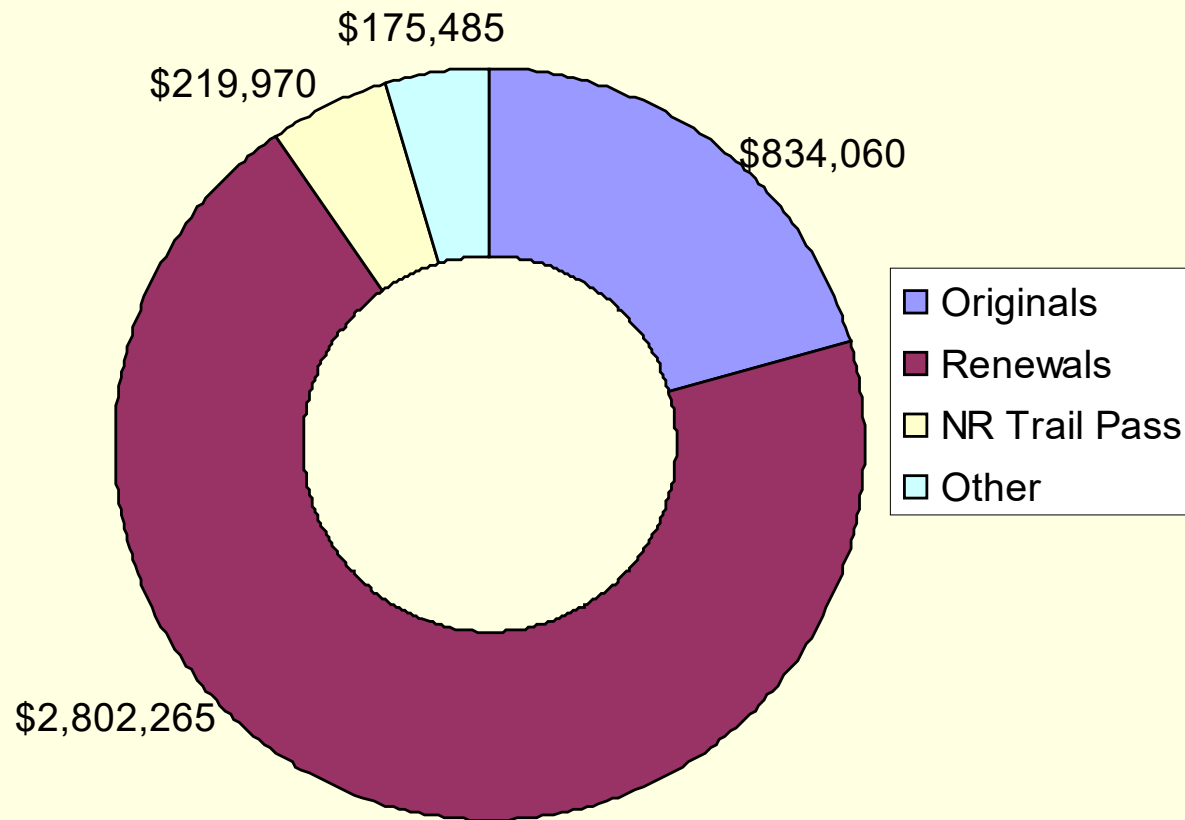
All-Terrain Vehicle Revenues, 2005-06



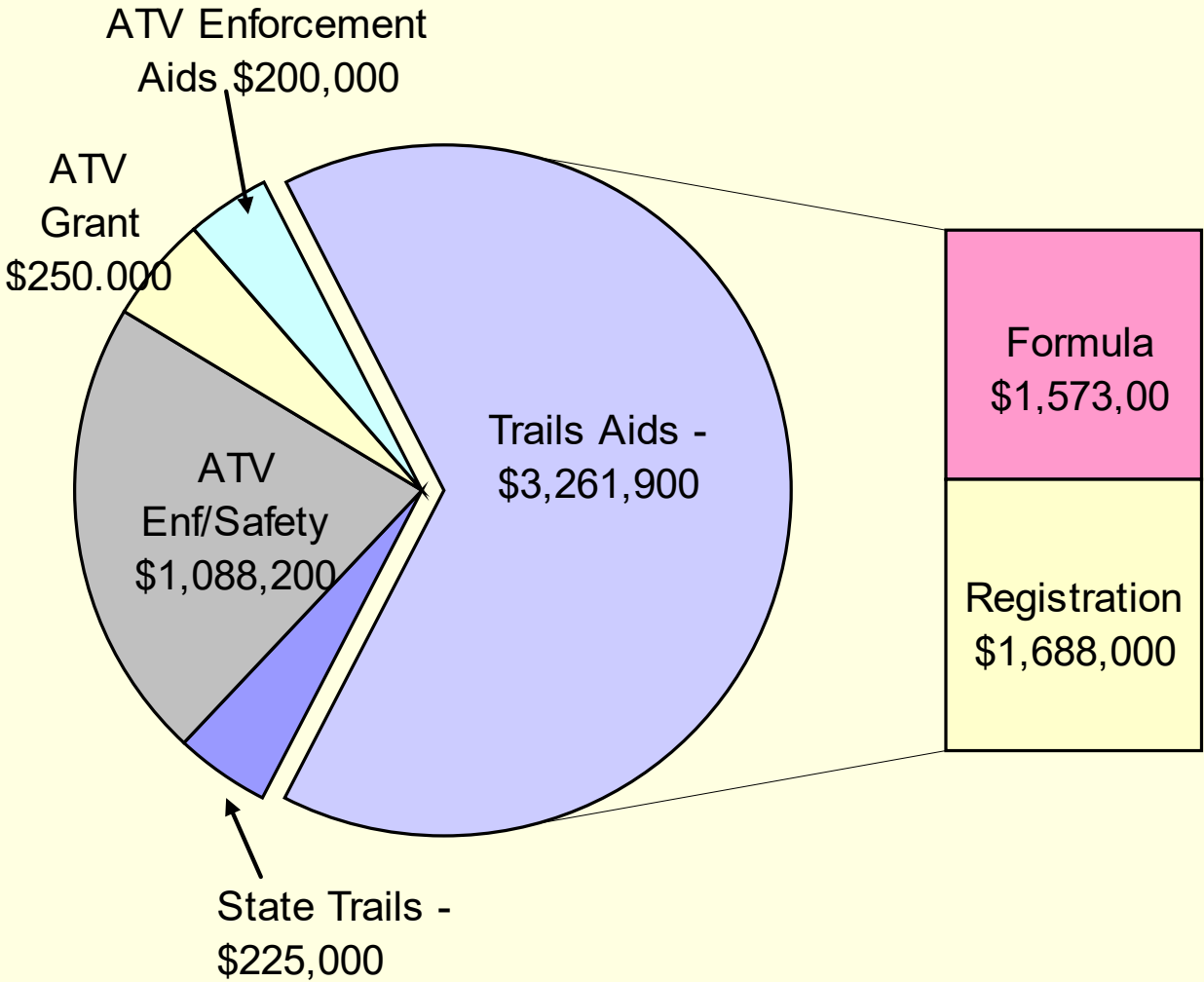
■ Gas Tax ■ Registration

Source of ATV Program Funds

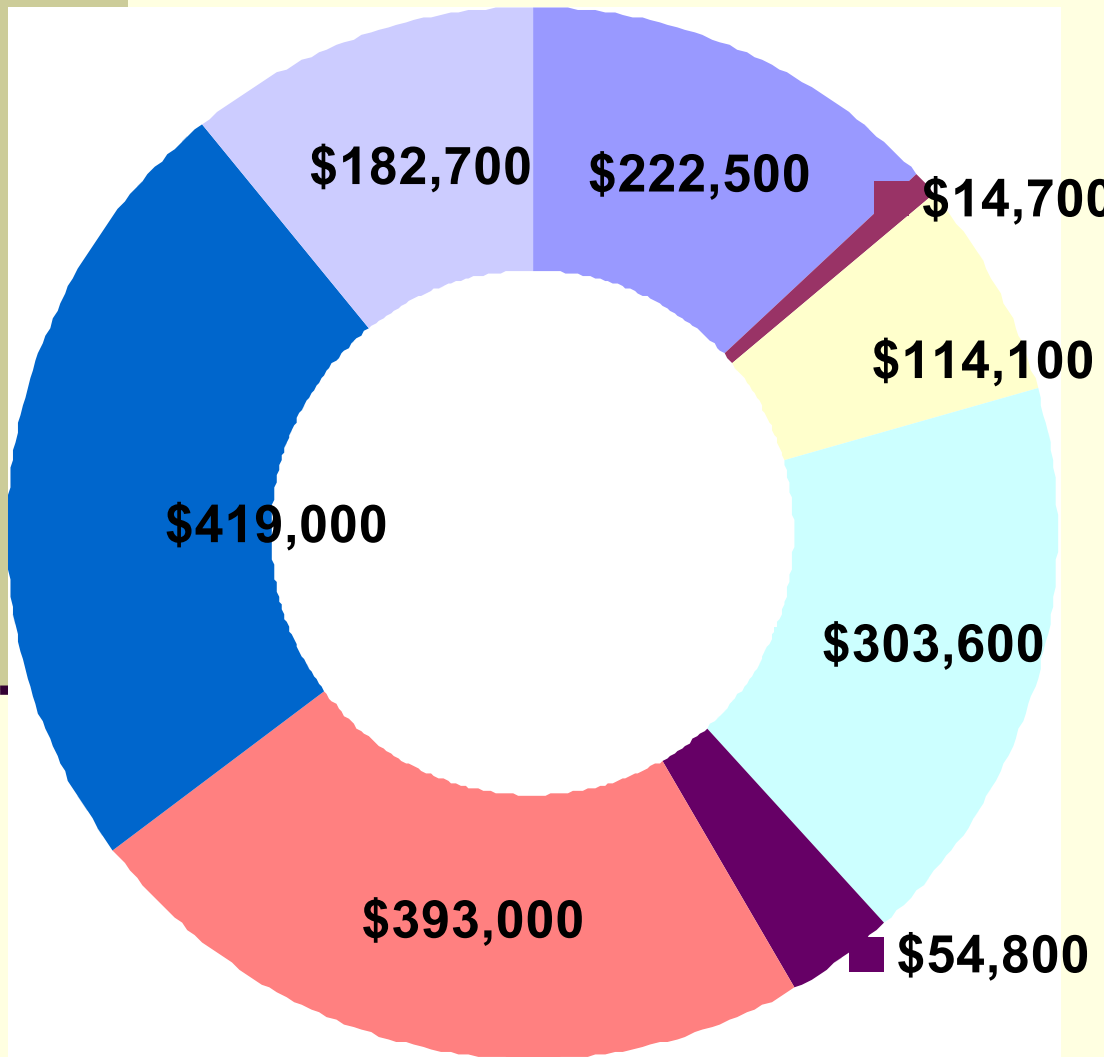
Elements of Registration Funds



ATV Program Appropriations, 2005-06



Trail/Area Projects Approved 3 Year Average



- Intensive Use Areas
- Maps
- Summer Trails
- Support Facilities
- Winter Trail
- Year-round Trail
- Trail Rehab
- Trail Relocation

Questions.
