



Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative

FEASIBILITY STUDY

July 2017 CalumetHeritage.org

“Just call my name, and I’ll be there.” —The Jackson 5

The *Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study* has emerged as a signature project of one of the nation’s most significant and distinctive regions. Many people were “there” when their name was called to help put it together, whether that was to serve on a committee, to answer a question, to write and research key sections, to contribute a fresh idea, to attend a public comment session, provide comments on the feasibility study draft, or to simply continue to lead and pitch in on one of the many creative projects that make the region a better place to live, work, and play. The group that put this study together has drawn energy and renewal from the region’s inspiring people and places, many of whom are listed, with deepest gratitude, in Appendix A.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership has advocated for a National Heritage Area since 1999. The Partnership drew its initial inspiration from the leadership of the Calumet Ecological Park Association, led for many years by Judy Lihota. CHP’s bi-state all-volunteer board represents a range of connections to regional heritage. It has devoted countless hours in its mission to “identify, protect, and preserve the natural, cultural, and recreational heritage of the Calumet region of Illinois and Indiana. Board members Amanda Aguilera, Jason Berry, Karen Brozynski, John Cain, Benjamin Cox, La’Kisha Girder, David Holmberg, Gary Johnson, David Klein, Mike Longan, Sherry Meyer, Diane Pugh, Tom Shepherd, and Tiffany Tolbert have wrestled with the purpose, shape, and content of the study for many years. Sherry and Mike have exerted exceptionally strong leadership and have played a critical role in increasing the Partnership’s capacity to bring this project to scale.

The Field Museum, a partner in the Calumet Heritage Partnership, has taken on a leadership role in producing this study, from securing financial support, to engaging consultants, to devoting staff time and energy to its completion. Bill Steers, ArcelorMittal’s General Manager for Communications and Corporate Responsibility for the Americas, has taken an active and exemplary role in ensuring that regional efforts have the capacity and leadership needed to be successful, including leadership in the new Calumet Collaborative. Consultants August Carlino and Nancy Morgan have brought their long experience with successful heritage areas to bear on the shape and direction of this study. Those who have come to know Field Museum staff Madeleine Tudor, Mario Longoni, Alaka Wali, Lara Gonzalez, Ellen Woodward, Marc Lambruschi, and many other colleagues and interns, know that they are encountering people with an unusual combination of knowledge, skill, and the sheer ability to listen. The leadership of the Museum has been strongly supportive of this entire project, and I am very grateful to work with folks like President Richard Lariviere, Vice President Debra Moskovits, and Rowe Family Director Nora Bynum of the Keller Science Action Center.

A major point raised in Chapter Four of this study is that the Calumet region has a rich network of partners. Many are named in that chapter and in Appendix A. What needs to be said is that the level of commitment that they each demonstrate individually and in partnership continues to inspire. The work of these people and organizations is never easy in a landscape as complex as the Calumet region. But that work, as this study shows, is nationally significant.

Mark J. Bouman

Past President, Calumet Heritage Partnership

Chicago Region Program Director, Keller Science Action Center, The Field Museum

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is a bi-state non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and protecting the unique heritage of the Calumet region. The Field Museum is a partner of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Together, they lead the feasibility study to designate the region as a Calumet National Heritage Area and are editorially responsible for the content of this study.

Calumet Heritage
Partnership

The Field
Museum

The Field Museum gratefully acknowledges the following partners
for their support of programs in the Calumet region:





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Introduction: The Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative

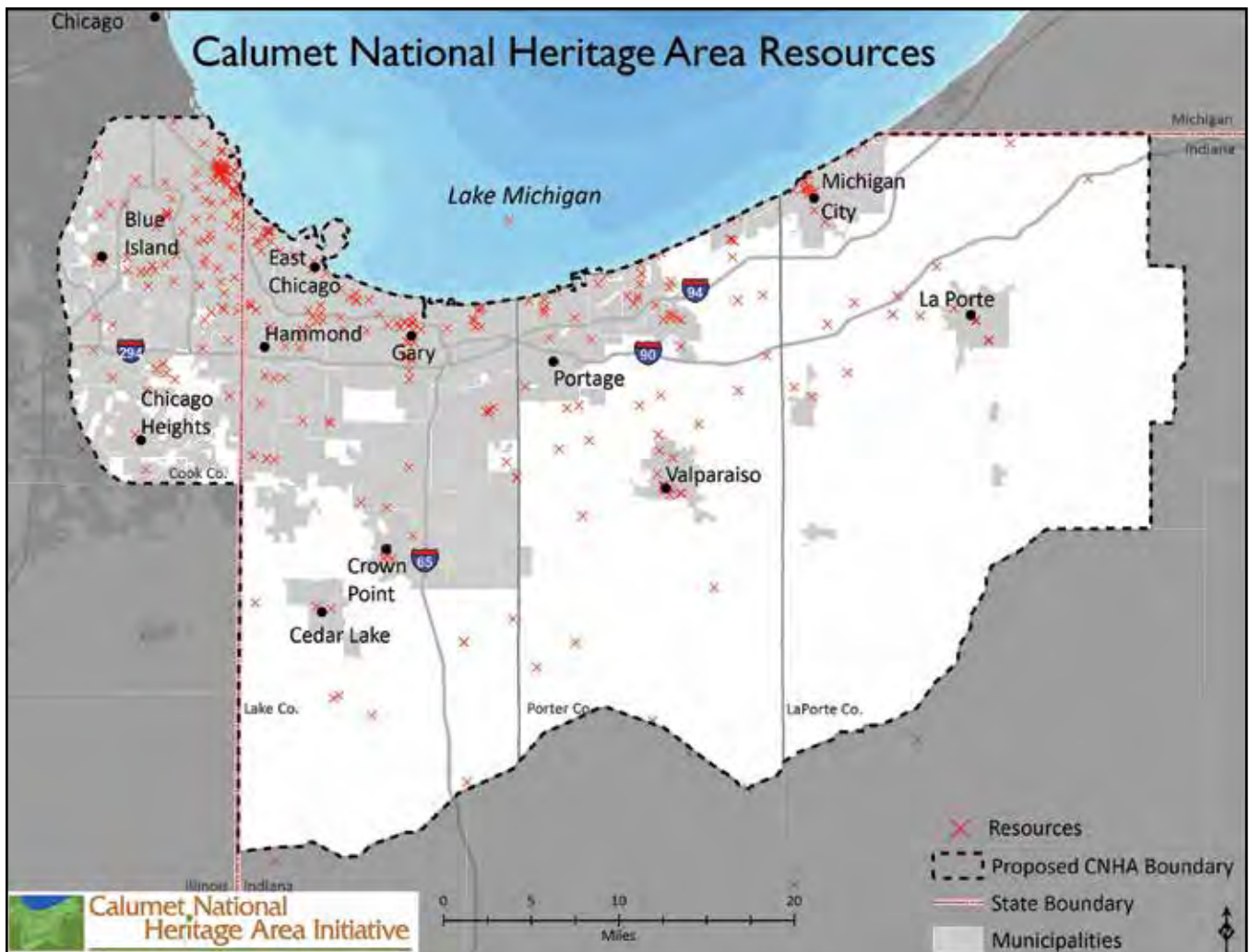


Congressman Pete Visclosky at the 2013 *Calumet Summit: Connecting for Action* challenged the two hundred-plus regional stakeholders in attendance from both Illinois and Indiana to “think big.” In response, the attendees overwhelmingly selected a National Heritage Area (NHA) as the big idea that could call together the disparate themes and interests in the region and coalesce them into a shared vision.

This *Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study* is the fruit of that idea and the extended regional conversation that ensued. It gathers into one place a story of national significance, backed by an extensive inventory of regional cultural and natural resources, and aligned with regional goals and objectives. It is produced by the Calumet Heritage Partnership but it is the region’s story. It is a story that has been years in the telling, and now it can be clearly stated that a Calumet National Heritage Area is desirable, feasible, and poised to get started.

The most immediate roots of the effort date to 1998. At that time, the National Park Service wrote in its *Calumet Ecological Park Feasibility Study* that “the Calumet region exists as a unique mosaic of globally rare natural communities and significant historic features in juxtaposition with heavy industry.” The study suggested that “protection and public enjoyment of natural, cultural and recreational resources in the Calumet region would be possible through National Heritage Area designation.” The Calumet Heritage Partnership (CHP) was formed the next year to begin the process of convening and aligning key regional stakeholders around the prospects of a National Heritage Area (NHA). Within a few years, the initial momentum toward an NHA slowed, as it became apparent that more consensus would be needed around the scope and significance of the region’s story and time would be needed to account for the significant, diverse interests that characterize the area. But CHP remained committed to the idea, and in 2012, with significant support from The Field Museum, replanted the seeds which, this time, have found fertile and receptive ground.

To become a National Heritage Area, a feasibility study must be completed. Feasibility studies are analytical documents designed to assess whether a region has a collection of natural, cultural, and historic resources that tell a nationally significant story and whether opportunities exist to enhance public access to and understanding of the resources. They also investigate whether an organization that has the capacity to operate an NHA exists or can be created. Feasibility studies also gauge the level of support for the effort in the region. The study that the National Park Service conducted in 1998 to determine the feasibility of a Calumet Ecological Park laid important groundwork for the present study. It looked into regional resources, assessed their significance, and considered management alternatives that created the present path to a National Heritage Area. But that study’s prevailing question strove to answer whether an Ecological Park was feasible, not a National Heritage Area as such. It also covered a more limited geography than the present study, stretching roughly from Lake Calumet to the western edges of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.



The study identified 227 resources across the Calumet region that represent the themes of *Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape, Innovation and Change for Industries and Workers, and a Crucible of Working Class and Ethnic Cultures*.

This study took as a starting point a broader geography, rooted both in longstanding regional scholarship and in new understandings of the importance of regionalism, fresh efforts to create regional dialogue, and increasing recognition that the study area as described here contains a story of critical importance to the nation. The study contains the following elements:

- In Chapter 2, a statement of national significance, key themes that emerge from that statement, and a proposed boundary.
- In Chapter 3, a regional history that situates the statement and themes in the context of American national development.
- In Chapter 4, a consideration of the operational feasibility of the National Heritage Area, including the regional partner network that undergirds the effort, management alternatives, coordinating entity, and financial sustainability.
- In Chapter 5, a summary and set of recommendations for further action.

- Appendices that include among them a comprehensive inventory of 227 cultural and natural resources that is itself a major contribution to the region.

A SPECIAL PLACE: Affected Environment

A lived-in landscape like the Calumet region that has a nationally significant story to tell is well-suited to be a National Heritage Area. National Heritage Areas are not parks as such. They require no federal taking or ownership of land to come into existence. Congress prohibits the use of federal funding in the acquisition of real property. But the “national” quality of an NHA helps it to bridge dialogue across political boundaries like state lines and when designated, “national” attention can come to places critical to the development of the nation for the benefit of visitors and residents alike.

There is no question that the Calumet region is such a place. One quickly comes to appreciate not only the dynamism of industry, but its close and continuing relationship with natural and human communities of extraordinary diversity. The region is studded with places where important stories come together, combining in ways that fill the senses on the one hand and raise important questions about the environmental, social, and economic winners and losers of the American experience on the other.

Consider, for example, Marquette Park in Gary, Indiana. Step up onto the deck of the lakefront Gary Aquatorium and take a good look around at the diversity of this corner of the Calumet region's landscape. Northerly winds pile up sands as they have at the end of Lake Michigan and its forebears since the Ice Age. Father Marquette came to these shores in the late 17th century, fresh from encounters with Native Americans and a path to the Mississippi. From the high dunes right here Octave Chanute glided into aviation history two centuries later. The dunes are now gone a half mile or so to the west, where the view is filled by U.S. Steel's Gary Works. Between you and the mills are lagoons, where once a channel of the Grand Calumet River found its way into the lake. The steel company blocked that connection, diverted the river, and along with other companies began to fill it with a toxic legacy that is now being systematically remediated in a landscape renewed.

Around the lagoons, recently restored dunal vegetation communities take hold. The Marquette Pavilion, a grand architectural statement itself now renovated, is the place where the Calumet Summit attendees brought forward the "big idea" to become a Heritage Area in 2013.

Captured in this one view of the region are some big themes: when industry encountered nature major changes occurred; the sprawling steel industry itself marked a high point in technological prowess and innovation for both businesses and workers; and cultures have been contacting and re-convening in the region for a very long time. From this vantage point in Gary can also be seen some characteristic sites of the Calumet region: the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, founded fifty years ago; the epicenter of the nation's steelmaking industry and its fourth largest refinery; and great buildings and cultural institutions that have made their way to the National Register of Historic Places.



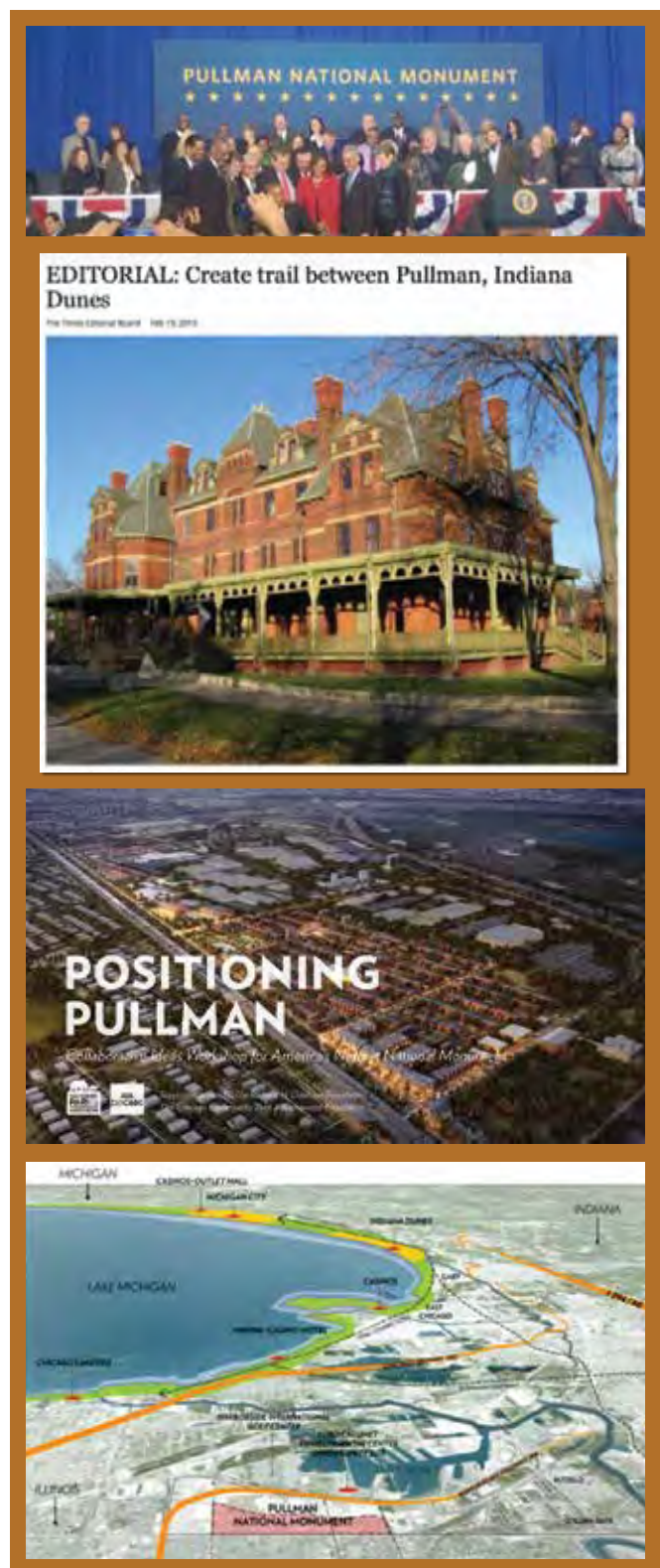
From top: The view from the Gary Aquatorium east to the steel mills at Burns Harbor; the Marquette Park Pavilion; lagoons; Marquette Park, where the Grand Calumet River now begins; the Calumet Summit 2013 at the Pavilion.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has now been joined by the Pullman National Monument in Chicago to form bookends of the most industrialized part of the region. The proposed National Heritage Area extends from this core to reach into two states, five counties, and seventy-one municipalities. One and a half million people of a wide variety of cultural backgrounds call the region home, which would make it a significant metropolis in its own right, though one can easily see the Chicago skyline from Marquette Park. The park itself is part of an extensive set of protected lands, which with the two units of the National Park System also includes units of the Illinois and Indiana park systems, county parks in Indiana and the historic Cook County Forest Preserves Calumet unit, and numerous large city parks such as Gary's Marquette Park, Chicago's Calumet and Steelworkers Parks, Hammond's Wolf Lake Memorial Park, the Portage lakefront, and historic Washington Park in Michigan City. The Chicago Park District now owns and is restoring 400 acres of land on the southeast side that two decades ago was slated to become sanitary landfill or railroad facilities. Significant land trusts like The Nature Conservancy and Shirley Heinze Land Trust spearhead ecological restorations. All told, there are more than 61,000 acres of protected land across the region.

The noteworthy features of this region were gathered into a special edition of *Chicago Wilderness Magazine*, funded by the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation and produced in Spring 2009. The magazine featured a special pull-out map of the area that not only summarized the assets of the region, but also established a workable compromise boundary. The boundary incorporated landform, watershed, economic, and social considerations. It soon found wide use, and the Foundation supported the further printing of 10,000 stand alone copies of the map for free distribution across the region. When the 2010 *Calumet Summit: A Call to Connect* was held, every speaker across the two-day event incorporated the map into their presentations. The map was used in the conference's logo, as it was for 2013 and 2015 Summits. It became an excellent starting point for a study area for the feasibility study.

A SPECIAL PROCESS: The Path Toward a Feasibility Study

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is a bi-state non-profit organization, formed in 1999, to advocate for a National Heritage Area. Since 1999, CHP has conducted conferences on the region's heritage that have moved from one side of the state line to the other. The conferences contain significant mixtures of both up-to-date scholarship about the region and educational tours to significant sites and sub-regions.



From top: President Obama signing the order creating the Pullman National Monument; the Florence Hotel, at the Monument, pictured in a newspaper editorial advocating for a trail connection to the Indiana Dunes National Park; public input on the possibilities for the new National Monument presented in *Positioning Pullman*; a map from this publication showing the geographic position of Pullman in relation to the rest of the Calumet region.

Conference keynoters include scholars who served as part of the panel of experts who reviewed the historical substance of this study.

CHP's volunteer board has a bi-state reach from Blue Island to Valparaiso, and as a group contains a set of heritage content experts with connections to the spheres of education, museums, municipalities, arts, industry, historic preservation, heritage tourism, archives, community development, and outdoor recreation. The board has a key partner in The Field Museum, a collections-based institution with an estimated 20,000 specimens and objects collected in the Calumet region. The Museum has lent significant staff capacity—including ethnographers, geospatial analysts, ecologists, educators, and administrative staff—to the creation of this feasibility study, supported both by its operational budget and grant funds. The Museum also serves an important institutional role, as a major civic non-profit able to straddle the state line. Through the environmental conservation and cultural heritage work of its Keller Science Action Center, the Museum has provided support to nurture the development of other regional partnerships in addition to CHP, including the Calumet Stewardship Initiative, Calumet Collaborative, and Calumet Land Conservation Partnership.

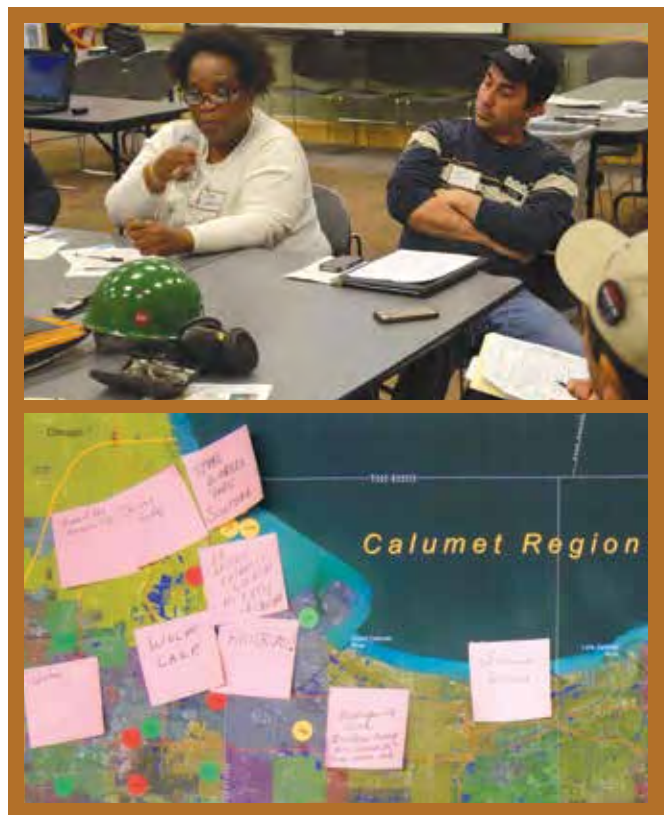
The first step in preparing this feasibility study was for the Museum to engage consultants on CHP's behalf. August Carlino and Nancy Morgan had prior experience in directing National Heritage Areas and had excellent knowledge of the forty-nine other National Heritage Areas gained through consulting on projects with existing and emerging National Heritage Areas, as well as through leadership roles in the Alliance of National Heritage Areas. They were able to advise the CHP board on necessary steps to take and which portions of the 1998 National Park Service (NPS) study might still be usable in the present context.

When it mobilized in 2014 to produce this study, the CHP board set up an Advisory group comprised of regional leaders. The group provided important feedback on the statements of national significance and key themes before they were circulated for public comment. CHP also formed Public Engagement and Themes Task Forces. The Public Engagement Task Force advised on media contacts and speaking venues. The Themes Task Force managed the process of writing the statement of national significance and accompanying themes, and the process of soliciting expert comment. Meanwhile, The Field Museum's staff conducted a series of "Community Conversations" designed to elicit resident comment on sites and events of significance. Community Conversations were topically organized around the themes of Art and

Heritage, Industrial Heritage, Environmental Heritage, Recreation and Heritage, and Ethnic/Cultural Heritage.

CHP used several of its annual conferences to focus on potential heritage area themes and to inform the general public of its efforts. In 2012, the conference gathered experts from other National Heritage Areas to discuss the concept and its application to the region. In 2013, the conference focused on the role of archives and historic sites in the heritage of the region. 2014's conference considered the role of public art in telling the region's story. By 2015, the conference format was changed to become a regional public comment period on the statements of national significance, key themes, resource inventory, and boundary as they had been prepared to that point. Instead of one conference session, four separate sessions were held across the region to reach the widest possible audience.

As the story of national significance gained integrity, the CHP Board set an aggressive schedule of public presentations to make the public aware of the effort and to solicit both comment and support. Presentations to regional planning and governmental agencies included reaching every municipal chief executive through the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association.



From asking participants to talk about objects to having them write place-based information on post-it notes (and put these on maps), the Community Conversations collected memories and meanings at the heart of people's sense of their heritage.



Marquette Park Lagoon, Gary, Indiana

A number of municipal leaders are also present on the Millennium Reserve Steering Committee, appointed by Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn in 2011. Millennium Reserve named pursuing National Heritage Area designation as a “priority project,” and it was also a highlighted strategy in Indiana’s Marquette Plan update of 2015. Presentations were also made to service organizations, and local and regional institutions and organizations (such as the Calumet Ecological Park Association which has advocated for the 1998 NPS study to be completed).

A unique opportunity to disseminate the themes occurred as the documentary film *Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability* was filmed beginning in 2013 and released in 2016. That film meditates on the dual significance of the Indiana coastline as the home of both huge industrial enterprise and a major conservation movement. The film had its Chicago premiere at The Field Museum, and excerpts from the film and the release of its companion volume authored by Kenneth Schoon were key components of the October 2016 Calumet Heritage Conference. At that event, the findings of this feasibility study were reviewed with the public. Comments were considered, and a draft version of the feasibility study was shared online with the public beginning in early January 2017.

An important element of the feasibility study process was stakeholder interviews conducted by the consultants. A consistent theme emerged from the interviews: the National Heritage Area is a great concept for the region, and while financial resources and a partnership network to support a National Heritage Area exist in the region, efforts should be undertaken to be sure that the NHA has organizational capacity to succeed.

A significant pathway to build organizational capacity occurred when the Millennium Reserve effort began to transition to being a bi-state non-profit. This new Calumet Bi-State Sustainable Development Collaborative or simply the Calumet Collaborative is being created precisely to lend capacity to regional scale projects, including as it does in its founding group not only key regional municipal, business, and non-profit leaders, but the heads of key foundations who invest in the region. The Calumet Collaborative and CHP agreed in Fall 2016 to serve as a joint coordinating entity for the National Heritage Area through the next phase of planning, which brings to the effort the tremendous knowledge and regional expertise embodied in the CHP board as well as the financial and managerial capacity represented by the Calumet Collaborative.

Next Steps

This feasibility study’s major findings and conclusions were presented at the 17th Annual Calumet Heritage Conference in October 2016. After accounting for public feedback in that meeting, the stage is now set for presenting the feasibility study to the general public. The present document will be available for public comment for a thirty-day period beginning in early January 2017. The study report will also be reviewed by the National Park Service’s National Heritage Areas program.

After final edits, and secure in the knowledge that what is being presented is an accurate and compelling reflection of the shared regional vision, the Calumet Heritage Partnership and the Calumet Collaborative will work with other regional partners to prepare legislation for designation by the United States Congress.

Caption Page 1: Homes, sand, and steel in Portage, Indiana.

Significance of the Calumet Region



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

From a National Lakeshore in the Indiana Dunes to a National Monument at Pullman, the Calumet region contains both globally rare natural areas and the colossal evidence of industrial urbanization. These National Parks do not exist in isolation. Near them and between them are huge industries set next to delicate habitats and distinctive communities. The Parks' own stories reflect the ever-increasing complexities of American life during the peak period of the "second Industrial Revolution" between the Civil War and the Second World War. Innovative construction of a company town in a wetland area in 1882 signaled the stunning attractiveness of this region to the large scale factories that would soon anchor the western end of America's Manufacturing Belt. As it ushered in an era of enormous industrial production, massive immigration, labor conflict, and environmental degradation followed. Industry filled in wetlands, thrust into Lake Michigan, cut down dunes, and advocated for wetland drainage and the complete rearrangement of river flow. It built upon and spun a thickening web of rail lines, canals, roads, and pipelines second to no other region in the country. The encounter between growing industry and fragile dunes at the beginning of the twentieth century gave rise to a new kind of environmental conservation in an urban environment that focused on the protection of open lands for city people. A new kind of National Park, developed fifty years ago, characteristically wraps around the last large integrated steelworks constructed in America, the sort of contrast that defines this uncommon place.

The Calumet region at the southern end of Lake Michigan is a crucible of contrasts where the American encounter with industrialization radically changed the landscape and gave rise to new patterns of everyday life.

Its **national significance** stems from how the natural world was changed to make way for industry, transportation, and peoples from across the country and around the world. What emerged were characteristically American relationships among industry, labor, and the creation of place. The impact of these changes is felt in American life and landscape to this day. The American people – those in other urban industrial areas, those who continue to pass through, those who stop to visit, and most importantly, those who live in this landscape – will benefit from knowing the coherent story of human and nature interaction in this region.



Walking in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's Miller Woods.

The Calumet region contains globally rare natural areas, the nation's premier steelmaking district, and distinctive communities that continue to shape the natural and built landscape. Its two urban National Parks—the Pullman National Monument and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore—bookend and highlight these features.

The story's headline is this: The Calumet region contains globally rare natural areas, the nation's premier steelmaking district, and distinctive communities that continue to shape the natural and built landscape. Its two urban National Parks—the Pullman National Monument and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore—bookend and highlight these contrasting features. Today's Calumet landscape—taken as an industrial, environmental, and community whole—shows how American life changed during the boom years of industrialization that followed the Civil War and how changes continued through booms and busts in the economy to the present day.

Consider some significant Calumet contrasts:

- A river whose very name means “pipe of peace” and prosperity to the Potawatomi is now the Great Lakes’ most significant area of environmental concern.
- A still changing landscape of singing sands and gentle swales is altered again by human hand, which levels hills, fills wetlands, and reverses rivers.
- A habitat crossroads and biodiversity hotspot that neighbors furnaces and cracking towers.
- A well-integrated economic region of production and distribution with international reach and formed by people with roots from around the world, marked by place identities at the most local scale.
- A place where new models for cities exalted individual entrepreneurship but spawned gritty nationwide labor solidarity.
- A society where people of color were long excluded from housing but drove to national leadership in municipal governance and the pursuit of environmental justice.
- A hearth where women frequently tended home fires in an industrial world but took on leading roles in forging new forms of environmental activism and conservation.

Contrasts like these can be seen on the landscape. Sand dunes, wetlands, steel mills, ethnic neighborhoods, and railroads wrap around each other in an intertwined mix that is a crucial part of the significance of the region and a key part of the story that begins with the re-working of nature.

THEME 1

Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape

Natural areas, industries, transportation, and neighborhoods are found side by side in the Calumet region. Industry and nature meet each other here like few other places in the country. The mix of forest, prairie, lakes, and rivers attracted large-scale industry, agriculture, trade, and city growth. But in places, dry sands and wetlands proved too challenging to build upon. In time, and through much effort, they were preserved for their value as open space and as refuge for diverse plants and animals.



The Lake Michigan shoreline near Cowles Bog reveals a rare combination of sands, marshes, and hardwood forests.

A natural crossroads. Chicago's exploitation of its location at the easy passage of the subcontinental divide amidst forests and prairies of stunning verdure made it "the city of the century" and "nature's metropolis." But its flat site also made it the "mudhole of the prairies" and provoked pathbreaking engineering solutions to the challenges of urban growth. This epic development occurred ten miles north of the southern edge of Lake Michigan, and it projected the city's commercial reach to the "Great West." When the American economy emerged from the Civil War ready to be turbocharged by a new wave of industrialization, its western anchor would be the Chicago region, and its anchor within the Chicago region would be those lands by the lake that the first wave of mercantile urban development had passed over—the Calumet area.

Industrialization came quickly and forcefully to a region that happened to have unusually high species richness. It is situated at one of the great Ecotones of the mid-continent, where vestigial boreal vegetation

meets Indiana's great hardwood forests and Illinois' tallgrass prairies. Its sands and marshes are textbook examples of Wisconsinan glaciation that made the wet-dry alternation of sand and marsh a boon to biodiversity and a bane to European farming technique. The **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**, with its successional vegetation features and its outholdings that include elements of bog, prairie, and marsh plus two National Natural Landmarks, is one of the most biodiverse in the National Park system.

This fundament sparked scientific questions that anchored new disciplines in glacial geomorphology and ecology, provided the land base for the development of a vast urban-industrial complex, and ultimately inspired people in the growing industrial belt to develop pathbreaking approaches to land protection and restoration. Experts agree: the Calumet region's interplay of industry and nature is for Andrew Hurley a theme of "exceptional national significance" and for Christine Walley, "the most compelling narrative."

Resources illustrating the themes that are cataloged in the Resource Inventory are in **bold**.



Industry's massive, dramatic changes to the Calumet landscape exist in the midst of rare and diverse ecosystems.

Changes to lifeways and landscape. The vast changes which made the American economy truly continental in scope after the Civil War also made previously bypassed regions, like the Calumet, central to the nation's expanding urban-industrial system. A vast economic region called the "American Manufacturing Belt" became the nation's growth center and focus of its industrial, political, and economic power. It extended roughly between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River, and between the Midwest and Atlantic ports. The Calumet anchored the western end of this region. It splendidly exemplifies this epochal phase in American national development. At the same time, it is a leading example of how a local landscape was remade to accommodate and attract industry, and how it bore the effects of such industrialization.

With uncanny timing, and as if to illustrate the textbook "epochs" of industrialization, the remaking of the Calumet area for industry can be said to begin with the creation of **Calumet Harbor** in 1870 and the widening and straightening of the Calumet River. When the Joseph H. Brown Iron and Steel Company (later **Wisconsin Steel**) was built south of 106th street in the 1870s, dredge spoil from the slip created along the Calumet River was dumped into adjacent wetlands to provide drier footings for the factory. When the North Chicago Rolling Mills moved to the mouth of the Calumet River in 1875, it began to add land to Lake Michigan for its facilities, which later evolved into U.S. Steel's **South Works**. The Town of **Pullman** literally rose from the bottom of Lake Calumet in 1882, when clay from the lake was used to make brick for the houses. The company also built docks and an edge to the western shore of Lake Calumet, that, coupled with the four feet of fill on which the homes were built, permanently set the lake apart from surrounding wetlands.

These types of processes would continue for the next century, with harbors created at Indiana Harbor, Gary, and Burns Harbor; lands extended a mile into Lake Michigan at East Chicago; rivers either re-routed, straightened, deepened, and repurposed; continental drainage divides moved; and dunes destroyed in Gary, Portage, Burns Harbor, and Michigan City. Along the way, engineering landmarks like the **Cal-Sag Channel** (short for "Calumet-Saganashkee Channel, an integral part of what is now the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago) would be opened in 1922. To vault across the waterways, a web of landmark bridges would be constructed, as in the set of truss bridges over the Channel at Blue Island, the Chicago Landmark lift bridges over the main stem of the Calumet River, and the trunion bascule 106th

Street bridge in Chicago, whose status even today as the busiest in this city of bridges testifies to the incessance of river traffic in this reach.

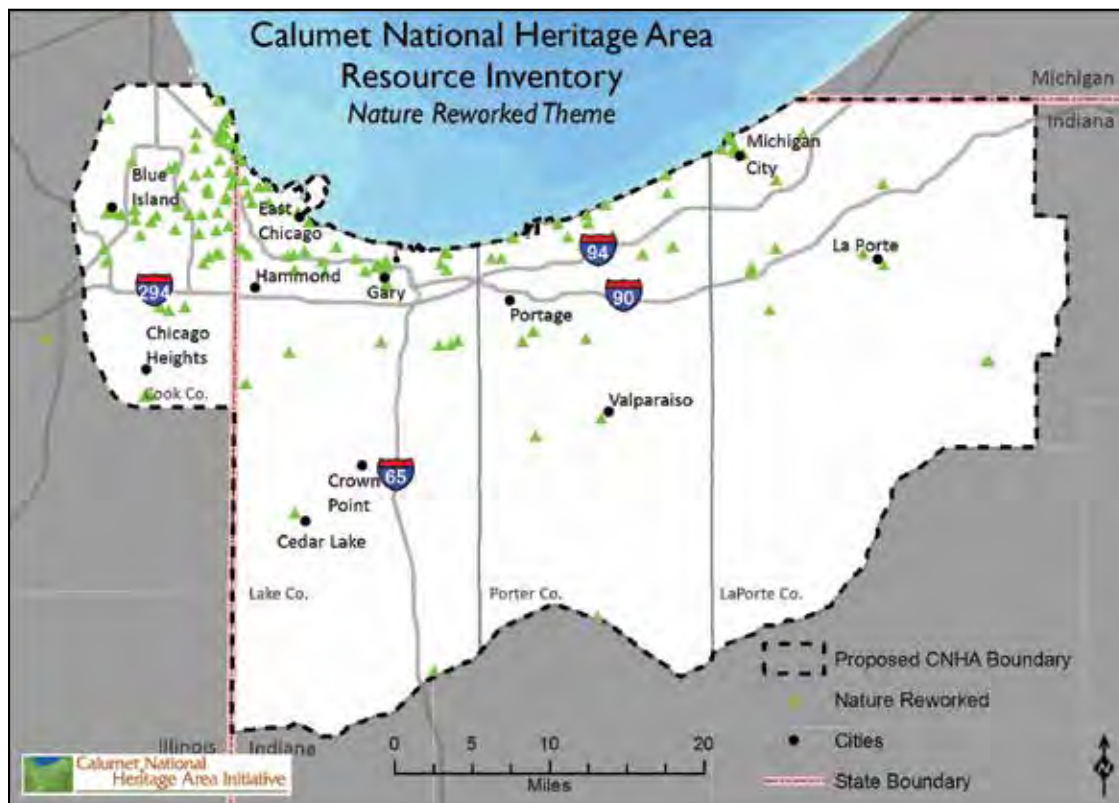
But yet another reappraisal of the region's value would come as residents of the industrial city started to take stock of what they were losing.

A heritage of activism and stewardship. Amidst these scenes of the American “technological sublime,” and even granting their greatness and role in building up the mid-continent as an epicenter of American industrial civilization, there was a growing sense that something was being lost. In 1916, agitation and advocacy for a Dunes National Park to become part of the new National Park Service reached a fever pitch. The advocates were led by the Prairie Club of Chicago, whose members included pioneering ecologist Henry Chandler Cowles, noted for his work on ecological succession at the dunes. Efforts were slowed by World War I, but the **Indiana Dunes State Park** was established in 1926. Renewed advocacy after World War II led to the creation of the **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore** in 1966. **Cowles Bog** in the Park, a National Natural Landmark, memorializes Cowles. It sits immediately adjacent to the Burns Harbor steel mill.

It is characteristic of the Calumet region that what might seem like fundamental conflict between industry and environment would result in such pathbreaking compromises.



Top: A cluster of iconic truss bridges carry converging rail lines to the Blue Island Crossing, popular with rail fans; the Acme Coke Plant rises from the Calumet marshes, with the industrialized Calumet River in the background.



That the interests of “environment” had a place at the table is key but ultimately not surprising, since, as historian Heath Carter notes, “Citizen action is characteristic of the region.” Women had an especially significant role in the preservation of the Indiana Dunes and in the fight for environmental justice. Bess Sheehan, secretary of the National Dunes Park Association, played the leading role in the creation of Indiana Dunes State Park. The later effort to prevent further industrial encroachments on the dunes and pave the way for a National Park was led by Save the Dunes Council advocates Dorothy Buell, Charlotte Read, and Sylvia Troy. Lee Botts founded what is now the Alliance for the Great Lakes and spearheaded many local initiatives. Cowles’s student Norma Pfeiffer discovered a plant called *Thismia americana* in the shadow of a metallurgical coking facility in 1912 that is endemic to the region, was last seen in 1916, and its only photograph is in the magisterial tome, *Plants of the Chicago Region*. She went on to become the first Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Chicago. When the City of Chicago promised to build a Lake Calumet Airport twenty years ago, local activists organized large-scale “Thismia hunts” to highlight the uniqueness of what could be lost under runways.

The proximity of residential areas to industrial zones has also made the Calumet area a hotbed of concern for those who have borne a disproportionate share of polluted land, air, and water. Key activists like Hazel Johnson, organizing from a base in public housing at Altgeld Gardens (for a while with the support of a young community organizer named Barack Obama) became leaders in the national environmental justice movement. Marian Byrnes, a retired schoolteacher, led grassroots efforts on the southeast side of Chicago and became a leader in the Southeast Environmental Task Force, Calumet Stewardship Initiative, and Calumet Heritage Partnership.

So a century of grassroots citizen activism has conserved, protected, and restored the biodiversity, native beauty, and recreational quality of the natural environment, making the region a significant place to the American conservation and environmental justice movements. Lee Botts wrote that a “restoration revolution” has coursed across the region, and now significant sites of the region’s globally rare patrimony of dune and swale habitat are preserved, frequently by and on behalf of the residents themselves.



Left: Hazel Johnson (right), known as the mother of the environmental justice movement, was a nationally-recognized leader in environmental advocacy. She founded People for Community Recovery in the 1980s to address the relationship between illness and industrial pollution in the Altgeld Gardens public housing community. Cheryl Johnson (left), continues her mother’s legacy. Right: Environmental activist Marian Byrnes (in straw hat) walks in Van Vlissingen Prairie, part of which was recently named for her work to save it from being paved over. Her efforts encompassed good neighbor dialogues with local industry and national recognition of the Calumet region’s environmental resources.

THEME 2

Innovation and Change for Industries and Workers

As one of the great workshops of the world, the Calumet region lays bare epic stories of entrepreneurship, industrial development, the struggle for decent working conditions and wages, and of what happened when certainties crumble.



Illinois Steel Company machine shop, South Works (predecessor to U.S. Steel).

Manufacturing and industrial urbanism. Icons of industry like Pullman, Carnegie, Gary, and Rockefeller forged an industrial region that became the buckle of the American Manufacturing Belt. Built on extraordinary local, regional, and national interlinkages in both metal and non-metal industries, it rose to become the nation's premier steelmaking district by World War II and remains so today.

The Calumet region rose to industrial prominence during a time that scholars call the "Steel Rail" period, when the intertwined development of a national railroad network and integrated steel production moved the nation's industrial production center of gravity westward from the mills of New England and the mines of Pennsylvania.

Steel manufacturers began to move to the region in 1875, with the construction of the Brown Ironworks. Shortly thereafter (1881), the North Chicago Rolling Mills Company built its South Works at the mouth of the Calumet River. As manufacturers sought to lay out ever more efficient plants, Indiana sites became more important, especially with Inland Steel (1901), Gary (1906), and Mark Manufacturing (1914). When Wisconsin Steel closed in 1980 and the **South Works** of U.S. Steel soon followed with a major downsizing and

then closure in 1992, it signaled the end of the century-long "boom" period in steelmaking in the Chicago portion of the Calumet region. Elements, such as the Acme coke plant and the ore walls at South Works, still stand.

The evolution of these firms also illustrates the growing vertical and horizontal integration of the industry characteristic of the era: the very evolution of the name of South Works into Carnegie-Illinois into U.S. Steel suggests the ever expanding scope of operations and administration. U.S. Steel built its sprawling integrated **Gary Works** and an accompanying town in 1906. **ArcelorMittal's** Burns Harbor plant (originally Bethlehem Steel) was the last integrated steel facility to be built in the United States, and its Indiana Harbor facilities produce more steel than any other plant in the country.

Other firms built or operated equipment that ran on steel rails. Few places in the nation better illustrate the rise of railroads, as hubs of a transportation network, as centers of industrial production, or as engines of economic, labor, and social change, than George Pullman's town, now the **Pullman National Monument**. Pullman's reach as a manufacturing concern extended across the Calumet region, to include



From top: The Millgate Neighborhood in South Chicago; LaPorte-made Rumely tractor; the Haskell and Barker Historic District in Michigan City; G. H. Hammond Meat Packing Company

the Pullman-Standard works in Hammond and the facilities of Haskell and Barker (now hub of the Haskell and Barker Historic District in Michigan City). The Pullman Company's 1913 switch from wood to steel car construction was paralleled by the rise of other steel railcar manufacturers across the region.

Once established in the region, the steel industry proved to be magnetically attractive to a variety of other related businesses. A further web of industrial and short line railroads moved steel from the mills to fabricators with relative ease. Steel supply companies burgeoned. Others firms were attracted by the availability of inexpensive steel in the context of location in the Chicago market, or by the region's centrality to the national rail network, as did the G.H. Hammond Meatpacking Company, founded in its namesake city in 1869. Industrial facilities opened across the region in new industrial suburbs like Chicago Heights or old country towns like Valparaiso and LaPorte, where Allis-Chalmers (previously the **Rumely Companies**) built agricultural machinery for the Midwestern market into the late 20th century.

As the technological underpinnings of the American economy changed in the twentieth century, the "steel rail" elements remained fundamental for the Calumet region. But the region retained its national importance as automobiles, airplanes, electricity, and petroleum assumed greater significance. Nothing sums up this new period better than the grand American combination of Rockefeller and Ford. While these two entrepreneurs' bases of operations were elsewhere in the country, their respective facilities constructed here in 1889 and 1924 point to the fundamentally interlinked nature of the Calumet regional economy and its embeddedness in the American Midwest. Both Chicago's **Ford Plant** and the **British Petroleum Whiting Refinery** (originally Standard Oil of Indiana) have undergone major reinvestments. BP's nearly \$5 billion reinvestment to handle heavier Canadian tar sands crude has placed it again at the center of North American debates about the long-term prospects for an economy built on this form of energy and an environment continuing to bear its consequences. The production and storage of petcoke as a byproduct of the refining process and BP's announced plans to buy out and raze the neighboring **Marktown** neighborhood has sparked regional activism around environmental justice. A contrasting pathway to industrial innovation is seen at the **Method** facility in Pullman, which aims for a zero impact approach to the landscape and is topped by the nation's largest rooftop greenhouse.

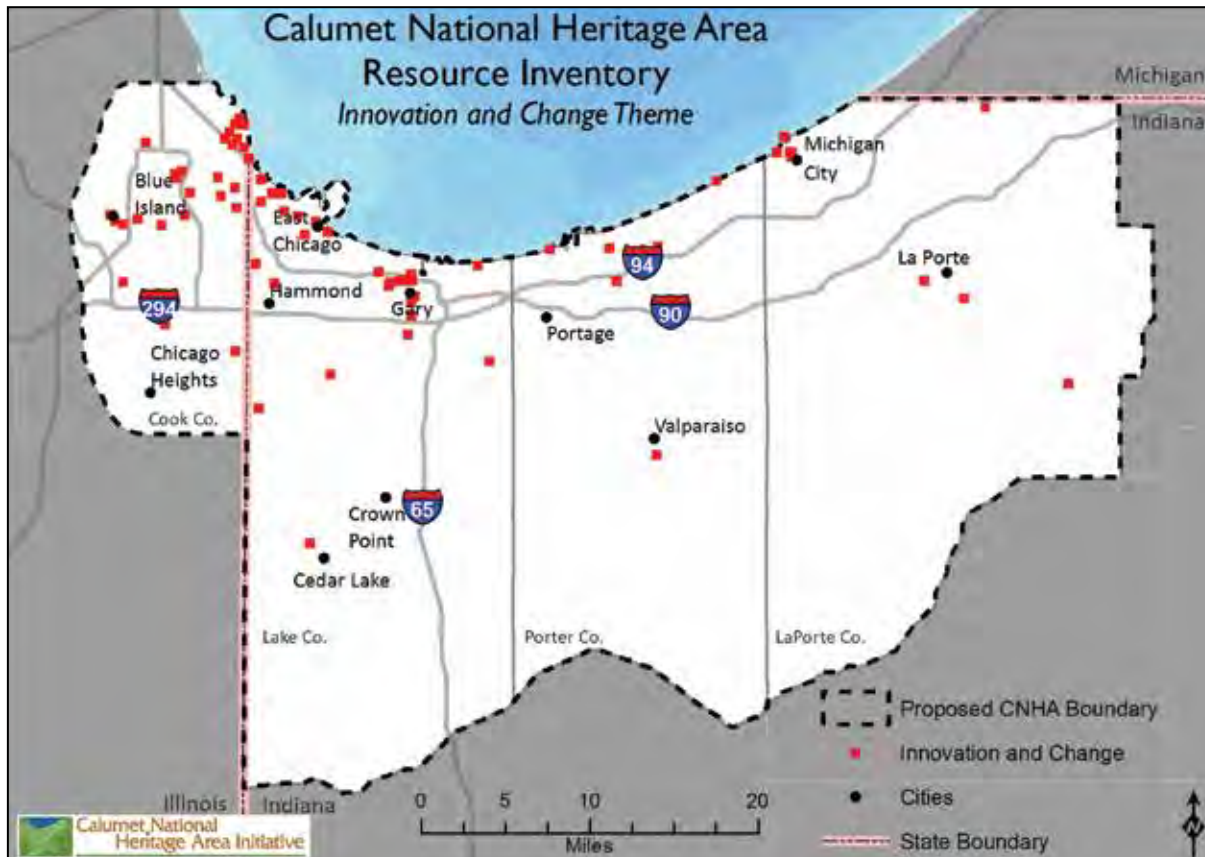


From top: Marktown; Ford assembly plant on Chicago's Southeast Side.

Labor takes a stand. The profound remaking of the Calumet landscape in an industrial image brought thousands of workers to the region and at a new scale. By 1920 one out of five manufacturing workers in the Chicago metropolitan area worked in the area's leading "Iron and Steel Products" employment group, most of it concentrated in the Calumet area. To the interests of labor as well as to capital, the Calumet region was defined by its heavy industry.

Workers' struggles for better conditions, wages, and rights captured national attention in the **Pullman** strike of 1893. The strike's spread to the nation's entire rail network pointed to the critical importance of that network and of the labor movement to the nation's economy. After the strike ended, Congress established Labor Day, a significant marker on the national path toward better working conditions and living standards for all Americans.

That path had many turns and switchbacks. A sculpture now marks the **Memorial Day Massacre of 1937**, one of the most violent moments in American labor history. The Steelworkers Organizing Committee won recognition from U.S. Steel in 1937, and by 1942 SWOC had become the United Steelworkers International Union of America.



The effort to widen the path to be inclusive of all workers is memorialized at the **National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum**. Randolph's efforts to organize the nation's first African American union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, can be seen as an innovation in American history on par with the entrepreneurialism of the man who built the Pullman Company. It also points again to the steely mesh of interconnection between the region's economy and its railroads, and the far-reaching effects the rails had on everyday American life.

Deindustrialization. An era of drastic shutdowns dramatically changed the region's industrial powerhouse and caused widespread job loss. Mills closed; firms went bankrupt; workers were cast out of their jobs; communities were devastated. This fate befell other places in the American Manufacturing Belt, and, indeed, what happened to all of them is one of the most significant national stories of the past four decades. A major impetus for the National Heritage Area effort in the Calumet region is to turn the regional narrative from one of loss and destruction, to one that builds on assets of natural and cultural heritage. That sense is taking hold, another turn in the changing historical perception of the value of this area.

Regional resources remain that tell the stories of past industrial endeavor, most notably in the

Administration/Clock Tower building at the **Pullman National Monument**. The Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois named the remnant **Acme Steel** structures to be one of the "ten most endangered structures" in Illinois and provided seed money for an effort to preserve them.

More importantly, government, for-profit, non-profit, and grassroots entities and individuals have been gathering to re-vision the region in light of the changes it has undergone and the realities it faces. The Field Museum, one of the world's leading collections-based natural history museums, has devoted time and resources, and a neutral convening table to shine a light on the region's assets, as it did in its award-winning *Journey Through Calumet* community ethnography process. Indiana's Marquette Plan, launched by Congressman Pete Visclosky, is a sustained effort to envision and create a coastal corridor that still has a place for industry and that embraces community access to the lakeshore. The Marquette Plan update incorporates historical and cultural resources and embraces the notion of a Calumet National Heritage Area. In Illinois, the Millennium Reserve effort similarly calls out a Calumet National Heritage Area as a priority project with potential to fulfill the effort's goals of linking community, economic, and environmental sustainability.



From left: 1937 Republic Steel Memorial Day Massacre; labor leader Ed Sadlowsky; sculpture commemorating the Memorial Day Massacre.

THEME 3

Crucible of Working Class and Ethnic Cultures

Cultures came together as people moved to the Calumet region in large numbers. As they worked, played, and set down roots, they developed a significant popular culture. Strong advocates led struggles for equality, inclusion, and civil rights that achieved national prominence.



Marco Salazar's mural captures the diverse heritage of Hammond.

Working class housing and cultural traditions in the landscape. Their names tell us that steel was made: Millgate, Irondale, Slag Valley. They tell us who owned the mills, forges, and shops: Hegewisch, **Pullman**, **Marktown**, **Gary**, Hammond, Ford Heights. Colloquial ("the Bush") or formal ("East Chicago"), geographical ("East Side") or personal ("Whiting"), these are the names attached to islands of human community scattered across the Calumet wetlands and ultimately, into the morainal hills to the south. Separated from each other by patches of wetland, by belts of railroad tracks, and by the mills themselves, the communities developed distinctive identities strongly shaped by physical, economic, and social attachments to nearby industry.

The Calumet region's residential structure is part of what makes it such a significant landscape and distinctive from the rest of the Chicago region. More than

half of the communities in the Calumet area found their origin as industrial suburbs or satellite cities. The region has only a few railroad commuter suburbs, a type with which the Chicago region is otherwise well supplied. But as places founded squarely within the "Steel Rail" period, railroads were an obvious part of everyday life in most of the region.

The Calumet region contains nationally significant models of homes built for workers and their families. Landmark planned communities include Solon Beman's **Pullman**, Charles van Doren Shaw's **Marktown**, the city of Gary, and East Chicago's **Sunnyside** community. A wide variety of other house types include the concrete **Edison Concept Houses** in Gary, Frank Lloyd Wright's **Foster House and Stable** in Chicago's Stewart Ridge community, and the small home in Gary where **Michael Jackson** grew up.

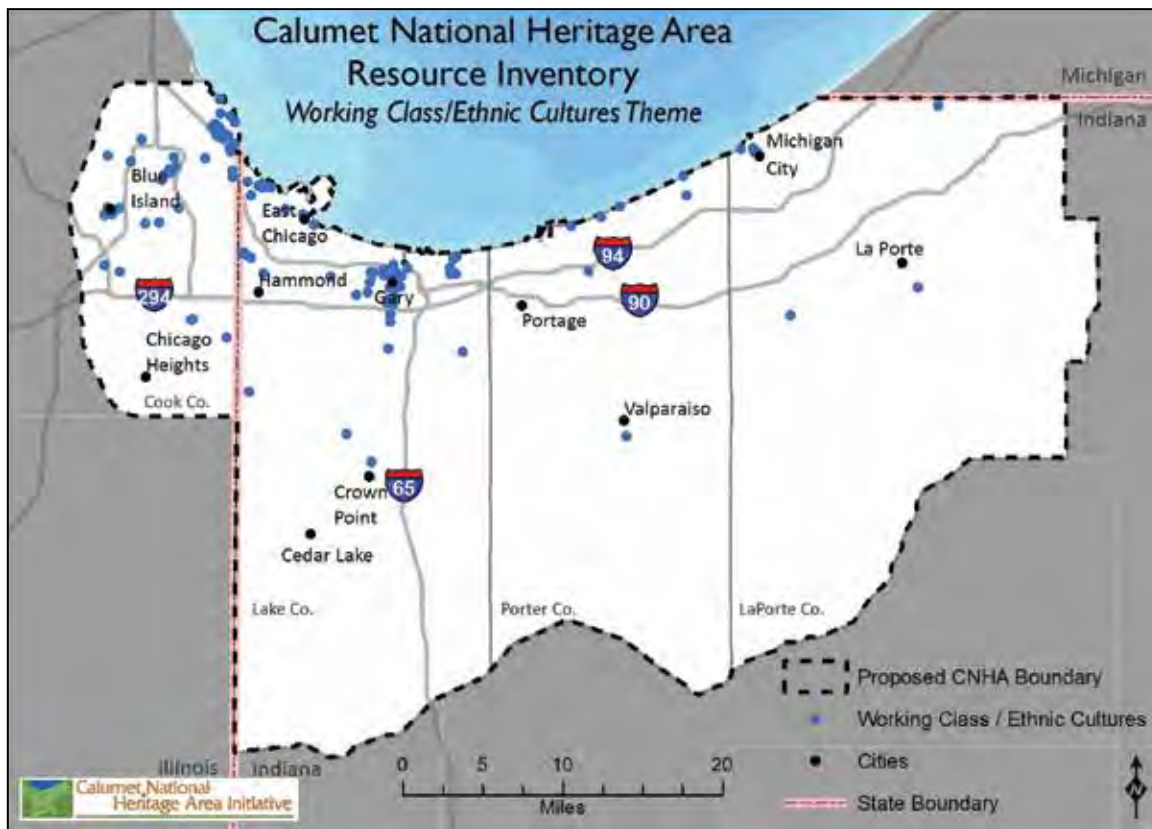
People came from around the world to work in the Calumet region and put their stamp on the landscape. By 1930, the region had an extraordinary diversity of ethnic origins. Within some Calumet communities, pocket enclaves developed especially strong local attachments to local churches, schools, social halls, savings societies, and taverns, which ultimately fostered highly local—even isolated—place identification. Taken as a whole, this archipelago of very locally centered communities is a significant element in the national story of immigration, enculturation, and group identity.

Race relations. Most of the issues discussed above had a strong racial dimension. While the transportation equipment and steel industries were a major ground for recruitment of labor from the American South, and exerted a huge pull effect in the Great Migration to places like South Chicago, East Chicago, and Gary, racially-charged struggles of national resonance erupt-

ed over schooling, housing, and politics. Theodore Roosevelt High School in Gary was built specifically to house Gary's African-American students, thus keeping them out of "white" schools. In 1945, the historic but isolated **Altgeld Gardens** public housing project was built in Chicago for returning African American veterans. Conflict in the steelmaking **Trumbull Park** neighborhood emerged in 1953 when Black families attempted to move into public housing there, triggering a response from city authorities that, according to Arnold Hirsch, led to "making the second ghetto." **Richard Hatcher's** 1967 election in Gary as the first African American mayor of a major American city sped the postwar processes of white flight to suburban "South County", leading to the creation of a "dual metropolis" and the "environmental inequalities" that historian Andrew Hurley has documented. But it also led to the National Black Political Convention of 1972, the largest such gathering of the twentieth century.



A variety of dwelling types were used to house the rapidly expanding population of workers. Clockwise from top left: Row houses in Pullman; single-family home in East Chicago; town homes in Trumbull Park; classic Chicago bungalow on the East Side; Edison concept homes in Gary.



Living cultural traditions. Renowned among a constellation of local history museums in the Calumet region, the **Southeast Chicago Historical Museum** wonderfully highlights the many aspects of family and associational life in its community. Similar stories could be told about other vibrant museums. But more lively are those resources on which you cannot put a plaque: these are the traditions, festivals, foods, music, and literature that make the region and its heritage come alive. Especially active traditions include Labor Day commemorations, ethnic showcases like Whiting's Pierogi Fest, and church oriented events like Southeast Chicago's AnnunciataFest. Music has long pulsed out of the region, with especially notable examples being Gary's VeeJay records (the first American label to release the Beatles) and the Jackson family.

Celebrations of cultural heritage have long been a part of community life in the Calumet region. Top: A float in the Mexican Independence Day Parade through the South Chicago community area, circa early 1950s. At the time, South Chicago was also the home of U.S. Steel South Works and is still home to the oldest Mexican American Catholic parish in Chicago. Bottom: Dancers perform at a recent celebration of Pierogi Fest in Whiting, Indiana. While a celebration of Eastern European heritage, it has become more generally associated with celebrating the ethnically diverse working class heritage of the region.



Calumet Region Goals and Priorities

Multiple stakeholders and entities have coalesced in the region over the two decades since the National Park Service's *Calumet Ecological Park Resource Study*. They have stated many goals and priorities in various contexts, and now all these aspirations and voices are coming together as the region is poised to become a Calumet National Heritage Area. It has been repeatedly stated, especially at multi-stakeholder Calumet Summits in 2013 and 2015, that a National Heritage Area is the clearest path to bring coherence to these efforts, strengthen regional identity, and bring necessary resources to activate great thinking.



Calumet Summit 2015: Connecting for Action

An overarching goal of the heritage effort is to draw together the conceptual interlinkages of the three heritage themes and to project them forward as fundamental to any regional sustainability effort. There is a powerful sense, given the complexity of the themes of the region, that heritage reverberates in everyday life and undergirds conversations which cut across economy, environment, and community. There is a strong sense the region's heritage is built into the region's future.

What follows is a distillation of the most salient heritage goals and priorities now incorporated into current regional plans (such as the Millennium Reserve and the Marquette Plan), and discussed in community conversations, Summits, and feedback sessions.

Goals and priorities' thematic connections are represented by the abbreviations after each bullet point; **bold** indicates strong thematic connection and *italics* indicates some thematic connection. Themes are abbreviated as Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape (NR), Innovations and Change for Industries and Workers (II), and Crucible of Ethnic and Working Class Cultures (CC).



Calumet Is My Backyard (CIMBY) students participate in a winter stewardship day at Whistler Woods in the Cook County Forest Preserves.

Environment and Stewardship

The Calumet region has played an important role in conservation, ecological study, and environmental protection. The area continues to possess a rich conservation ethic, ecologically significant sites, and outstanding services by agencies to protect the environment and public health. Priorities to enhance environmental treasures across the bi-state region are:

- Identify, connect, and enhance important sub-geographies such as the dune and swale, moraine forest, and river corridors (**NR**)
- Coordinate land management, ecological restoration, land acquisition, and trail development activities in key habitat areas (**NR, II, CC**)
- Provide improved access to existing natural areas (**NR, II, CC**)
- Restore, manage and promote healthy watershed systems (**NR, II, CC**)
- Promote the protection of coastal and estuarine areas and waters (**NR, II, CC**)
- Develop a stewardship model for bi-state Calumet that includes measures of success for both ecosystem restoration and volunteer engagement (**NR, II, CC**)
- Connect environmental stewardship to health/well-being activities (**NR, II, CC**)

Cultural Heritage/Historic Preservation

The communities of the Calumet region are sites of significant cultural history. But sites of significance are often unrecognized and unappreciated. Priorities are:

- Identify and showcase the industrial, natural, and community heritage of the bi-state region through education, festivals, and other cultural activities (**NR, II, CC**)
- Protect, conserve, and restore significant landmark sites, including homes, commercial and religious structures, public buildings, and planned industrial communities (*NR, II, CC*)



From top: Gary's Union Station served as a passenger depot from 1910 into the 1960s, and so was the first place in Gary experienced by many newcomers; the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum commemorates a key civil rights figure and the work lives of thousands of Pullman porters; historian Rod Sellers shows a few of the artifacts and maps that tell the story of life in the factories and communities in the Southeast Chicago Historical Museum.

- Identify, protect, and preserve important archaeological sites in the region (**NR, II, CC**)
- Build a bi-state dialogue between the Pullman National Monument, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and the lands around and between them (**NR, II, CC**)
- Create a bi-state regional consortium/network of local heritage groups, museums, archives, and historical societies (**NR, II, CC**)



A member of Calumet Waterway Stewards enjoys a stretch of the Little Calumet River. Paddling is being more broadly promoted by a number of groups now that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District has begun disinfection of the treated effluent discharged from the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant to the Little Calumet River at Acme Bend.

Recreation

The Calumet region historically has contained significant places to relax and play. Priorities across the state line are:

- Continue to develop the region's system of trails and improve the connections between them (**NR, II, CC**)
- Improve existing and develop new recreational sites (**NR, CC**)
- Increase access to the Lake Michigan shoreline (**NR, II, CC**)
- Promote tourism and ecotourism (**NR, II, CC**)

The Arts

The region's landscape and heritage are significant sources of artistic inspiration, especially with attention-grabbing proximity of nature and industry. There is a thriving arts community in the Calumet region, but it is not well recognized. Priorities are:

- Promote and protect the existing folk and fine arts heritage of the region (**NR, II, CC**)

- Support and promote existing artists and arts organizations (II, CC)
- Promote the role of the arts in regional-scale placemaking (NR, II, CC)
- Activate and transform heritage spaces that build community and enhance civic engagement for local residents and that are attractive to visitors using creative placemaking approaches (NR, II, CC)



Renowned local artist, Roman Villarreal, coined the phrase, “Art is the new steel,” at the 2014 Calumet Heritage Conference, which explored the role of the arts in expressing the rich heritage of the Calumet region. A flourishing public art scene has been integral to placemaking throughout the region, with murals like the The Jackson 5 in downtown Gary, (top) by muralist Felix Maldonado, and sculpture by Roman Villarreal (pictured with Mike Boos, Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative) dedicated to steelworkers and their families at Steelworkers Park located on the former site of U.S. Steel South Works, Chicago.

Economy

Industry has been a key identifying factor and the backbone of the Calumet region. The region’s industries are in flux, making stability and redevelopment key goals. Conserving the industrial heritage of the Calumet region is important, but should be coupled with efforts to support existing industries and attract new investment, and build on environmental and community assets. Priorities are:

- Make the most of opportunities that meet the “triple bottom line” that enhance economy, build community, and protect environment (NR, II, CC)
- Improve the Lakeshore in ways that balance industrial development and water-based tourism and recreation (NR, II, CC)
- Utilize brownfield sites for industrial development (NR, II, CC)
- Increase tourism marketing at the bi-state regional scale (NR, II, CC)
- Attract and retain a workforce that enjoys a high quality of life by residing in the region (NR, II, CC)
- Identify and elevate opportunities for adaptive reuse of buildings and other structures, such as closed steel mills and Union Station in Gary, to become regional gateways or interpretive centers (NR, II, CC)

Wayfinding and Branding

Develop a comprehensive regional system of signage and wayfinding to guide visitors and local residents through the region, provide details about specific locations, build regional identity through branding, and connect the region’s places through themes and stories.

- Create a brand identity for wayfinding that boosts regional connectivity and pride in place (NR, II, CC)
- Interpret sites and spaces through signage, exhibitions, and other media (NR, II, CC)



The Method company’s soap factory nears completion, early 2015, in the Pullman neighborhood. The wind turbine, greenhouses, and solar panels are all visible, echoing the company’s and many residents’ hopes to build on the area’s industrial heritage, while using new greener and cleaner technology and practices.



Region-minded businesses prosper on Whiting's 119th Street business district.



High School students from the Calumet region in Illinois learn approaches to plant identification as part of The Field Museum's Environmental Leadership Internship.

Education

The cultural and environmental heritage of the Calumet region offer unique opportunities to engage children and adults in place-based learning. A Heritage Area could provide a network to facilitate the creation, connection, and enhancement of educational programming around environmental conservation and stewardship, economy, the arts, cultural heritage and historic preservation, and interpretation.

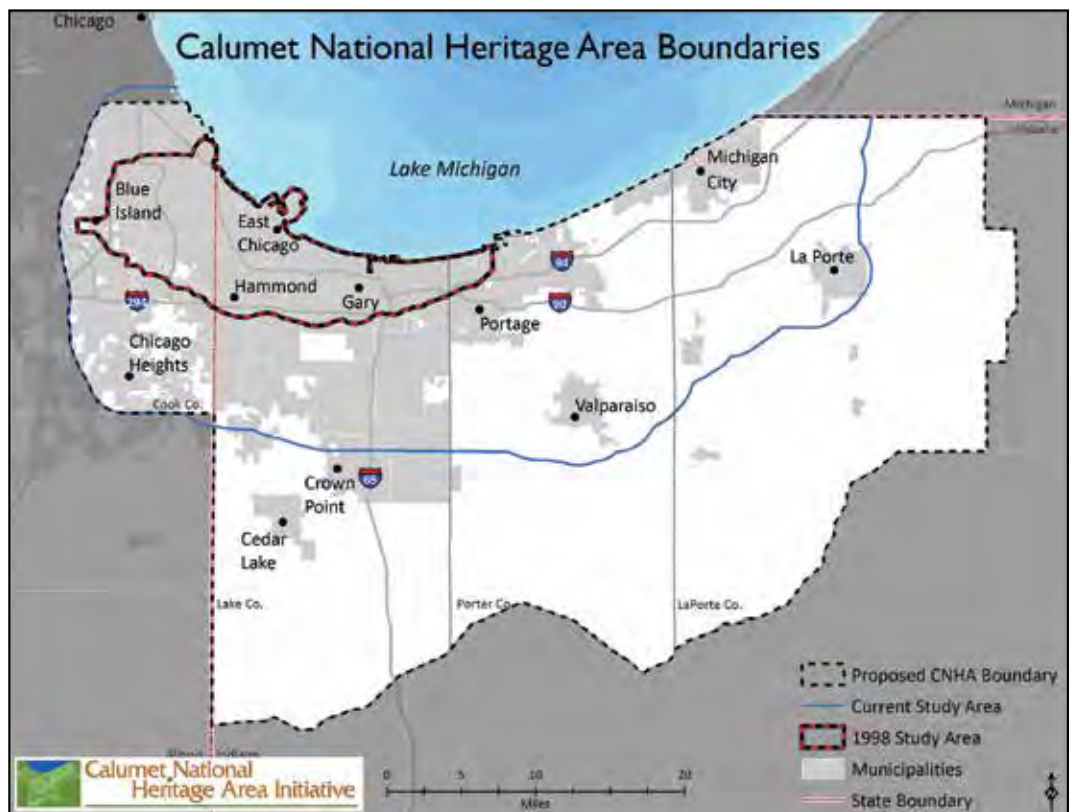
- Develop heritage-based curricula in partnership with local primary, secondary, and post-secondary educational institutions (NR, II, CC)
- Develop life-long learning programs (NR, II, CC)
- Connect with area scientists (NR, II, CC)

- Identify local geographies within the region as priority areas for programming and types of programs to prioritize for those regions (NR, II, CC)

Recommended Boundary

The recommended boundary encompasses the area where the three themes and the resources illustrating the national significance of the Calumet are strongest.

The themes are especially well represented in the immediate lakeshore area from South Chicago to Michigan City. However, experts such as Alfred Meyer, Kenneth Schoon, and Powell Moore would locate the regional boundary southward, where the occurrence of local "Calumet" place names from Chicago Heights



to Valparaiso argues that the region's natural features, along with its key themes of economic and cultural development also resonate.

Therefore, recognizing the strength of the set of traits that make up the region, and the ongoing patterns of employment, information flow, and trade that circulate within the area, this plan recommends the following boundary. It aligns generally with key historic trails across the area, particularly the Sauk Trail and Vincennes Trace. Locally, some adjustments have been made so that jurisdictions are not split.

In Indiana, the boundary is extended to the borders of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties.

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), a key supporter and collaborator, has planning authority to the extent of these counties.

In suburban Illinois, the boundary is three miles to the south of the Lincoln Highway and three miles to the west of the Dixie Highway, the modern successors of the Sauk Trail and Vincennes Trace.

Any municipality that touches this boundary is considered to be within the National Heritage Area.¹

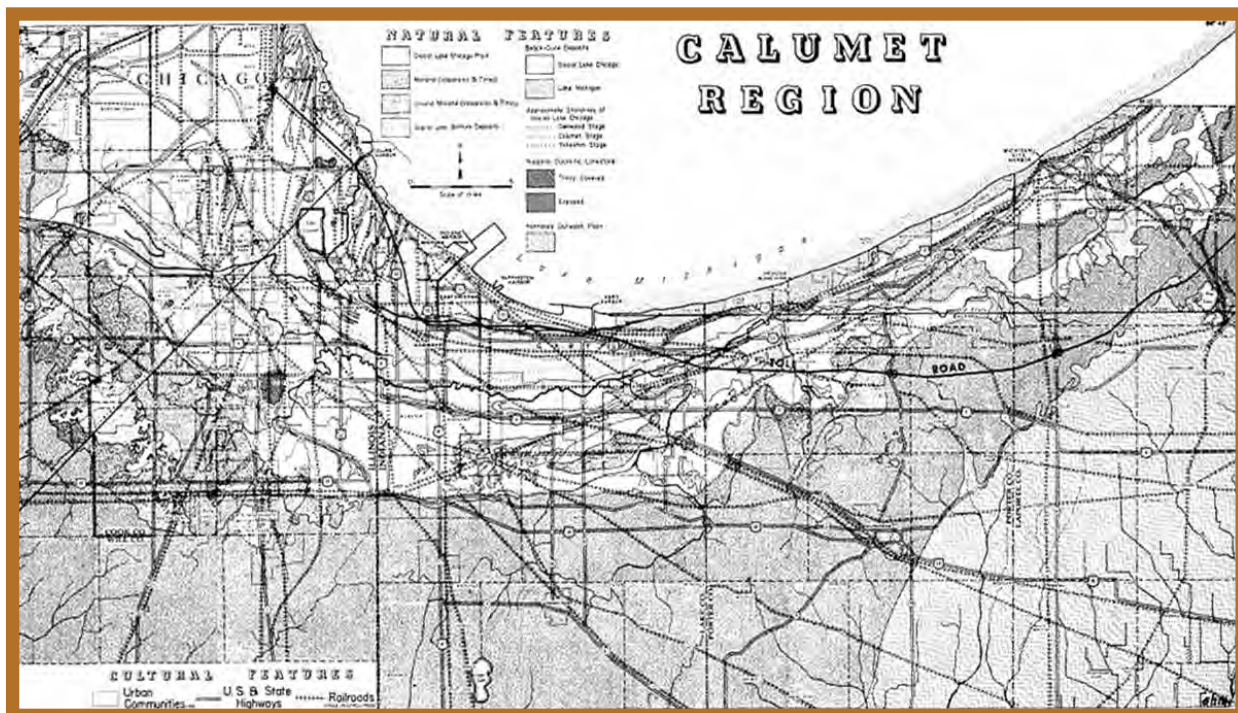
In Chicago, the boundary continues three miles west of Vincennes until it reaches 67th Street, where it returns to the lake shore along the southern boundary of Jackson Park. It therefore includes the bulk of the "Greater Calumet" and "Greater Stony Island" regions

of the City's new Chicago Neighborhood Now planning initiative, which clusters the City's original 1930s non-overlapping planning and statistical Community Areas into functional planning regions.

- Greater Calumet includes the Community Areas of Washington Heights, Morgan Park, Hegewisch, West Pullman, Riverdale, East Side, and the southern portions of Roseland, Pullman, and South Deering.
- Greater Stony Island includes the Chicago Community Areas of Greater Grand Crossing, South Shore, Chatham, Avalon Park, Burnside, Calumet Heights, South Chicago, and the northern portions of Roseland, Pullman, and South Deering. The 77 Community Areas are non-overlapping planning and statistical zones that were established in the 1930s.



A steelworkers' view of the Calumet region, bounded with remnants from the shop floor. The hook locates Gary as the center of the steel-making hub.



Geographer Alfred Meyer's work built on a deep understanding of the human and natural heritage of the Calumet region to inform its future development, as in this 1956 cover image from the City of Valparaiso Comprehensive Plan.

Caption Page 7: Sand and Steel on the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Background and History



INTRODUCTION “Have you *met* the Calumet?”

“Have you met the Calumet?” Many longtime residents—including the steelworker involved in the National Heritage Area effort who first posed this question—are struck by the subtlety and complexity that lies behind the region’s public face as a premier industrial center in the Western world. To meet the Calumet is to encounter a region with rich and memorable personality. In this chapter we take the measure of this lead character on the national stage, so significant for the pivotal role it plays in the boom period of post-Civil War industrialization that vaulted America into global economic leadership, so important for the swath it cut environmentally, so dramatically central to the diversity of the American cultural experience. We shall see that to meet Calumet is to be confronted with a strong but diverse personality, shot through with elements of conflict, cussedness, craft, inspiration, innovation, and implacable hard work.

The region’s rich personality has attracted generations of scholars who, in trying to capture a coherent picture of the complexity of nature and culture, have found it to be a lead example in their fields. Fifty years ago, the geographer Alfred Meyer wrote that “...if we want to depict and interpret the environmental ensemble of a region correctly, we must keep our eyes fixed *on the way things actually occur together*.” The things that occur—each one of them, it seems—are deeply important not only to this region but far beyond it. Large numbers of people and goods circulate through this geographical pivot of American commerce, creating ties to this place that extend far from the lakeshore. The table on the next page lists some key traits and the scholarly work that has highlighted them. How the traits relate—in sometimes jarring juxtaposition—is what makes the region both unique and archetypal of what happens when industry meets nature at the landscape scale.²

“... if we want to depict and interpret the environmental ensemble of a region correctly, we must keep our eyes fixed on the way things actually occur together.” –ALFRED MEYER

For the most part flat as a pancake pressed around the southern edge of Lake Michigan, the Calumet region could—and did—suffer shape-changing impacts from a century of heavy industrial activity and city-building that moved rivers, leveled hills, filled wetlands, and imprinted the likenesses of many peoples and their lifeways in an area of great biodiversity. Key themes emerge around the interplay of industry and nature, the rise of the greatest industrial hub of the mid-



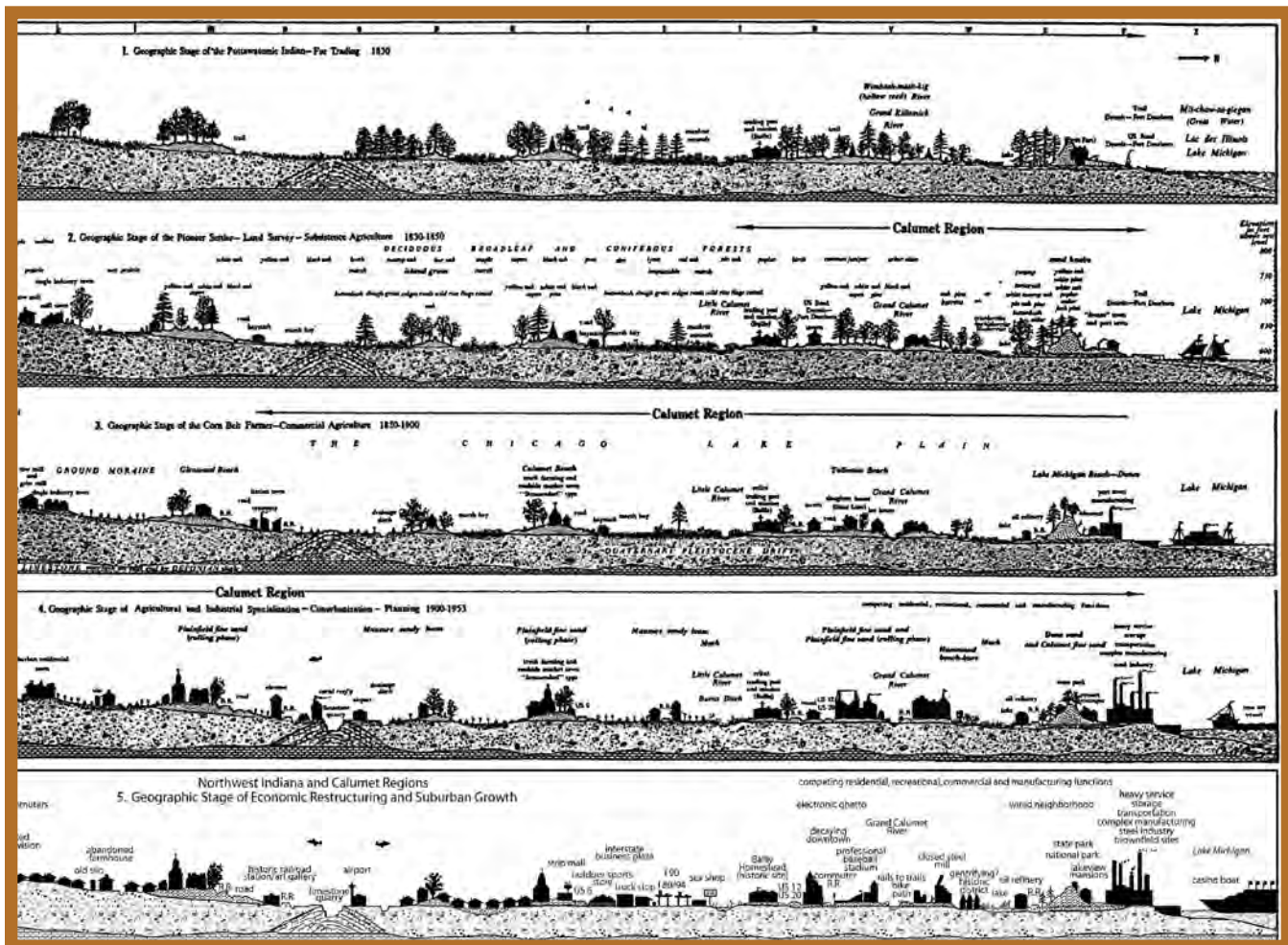
TRAIT (research interest)	SCHOLAR	Year of Publication
Pleistocene geomorphology	Salisbury and Alden; Bretz	1900; 1939; 1955
Ecological succession	Cowles	1901
Sequent occupance	Meyer	1954; 1956
Industrial organization	Appleton; Lewis	1927; 2008
Water transportation	Mayer	1957
Deindustrialization	Markusen; Bensman and Lynch; Clark; Walley	1985; 1987; 1990; 2013
Waste and justice	Colten; Pellow; Hurley	1985; 2002; 1995
Community development	Peterman	2000
Recreational and open space development	Gobster and Westphal	2004

continent, and the confluence of cultures from around the world. When industrial urbanites looked up some fifty years into the amazing boom to see what they had unleashed, they came to understand they had also wrought a complicated zone of highly contrasting scenes, textures, styles, and purposes.

This chapter introduces the Calumet region, describing the extraordinary endowments that make it a crossroads for nature, industry, and people. The first section describes a region rich in plant and animal life. Successive waves of peoples built their lives around this richness, and also found the area to be abundant in connections to many other places. The second section describes how just after the Civil War, people in the Calumet region used these connections to explode into prominence as one of the world's

Generalized Ecological Silhouette Studies in Sequent Occupance Geography

Calumet Region, Northwest Indiana–Northeast Illinois Alfred H. Meyer and Michael Longan, Valparaiso University



Alfred Meyer's "sequent occupance" diagram depicts the Calumet region's development in four historical layers (or stages), with characteristic features for each time period being placed upon a south-north cross-section of the region's landforms. In 2016, Dr. Michael Longan of Valparaiso University built on Meyer's careful research to offer his personal perception of how the landscape has changed in the sixty years since Meyer made the diagram. In Longan's diagram, the landscape elements are not necessarily in their proper locations, but are intended to represent a generalized view of the region. The inclusion of the redeveloped steel mill site, restored river, and the national monument among other landmarks suggests that the region is on the cusp of transition to a sixth stage of sequent occupance that could be called a 6th Stage of Sustainable Development and Environmental Restoration.

most important industrial districts. That prominence remains today, although there have been many ups and downs. The final section describes the social, economic, and environmental aftershocks of this explosion, and considers how the region's resilient response to these effects is integral to the story of its national significance.

PART ONE

“A Natural Botanical Preserve”

So many significant remnants of the pre-industrial landscape survive—and so much attention has been paid to their preservation, protection, and restoration by many committed and engaged people. Faulkner's notion that the “past isn't dead; it isn't even past,” seems especially true here. What the landscape once was continues to play a significant role in shaping how many think its post-industrial future should be conceived. One recent documentary, *Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability*, takes its visual cue from the dunes that emphasize to all that the physical landscape is still very much in the making. The ecological restoration movement attempts to re-create “pre-settlement” conditions. A network of local history museums and historic sites keeps the pre-industrial landscape of European settlement constantly in mind. The area's ecological inheritance prompted an effort in the late 1990's to create a Calumet Ecological Park, and the National Park Service resource study that documented the resources and weighed the potential is a direct progenitor of the current Heritage Area effort.



The Calumet Environmental Park Association (CEPA) holds a tree planting event along the Burnham Greenway on the far Southeast Side of Chicago. CEPA members were among the early opponents of former Mayor Richard M. Daley's plans to build a Calumet Airport on top of their neighborhoods and adjacent unused industrial lands. The group's advocacy for National Park Service recognition of an “Environmental Park” in the Calumet region led to the current national heritage area effort.

In short, the past is made present here through the activities of interested people, which in some places cohere to become interest groups of significant energy and capacity.

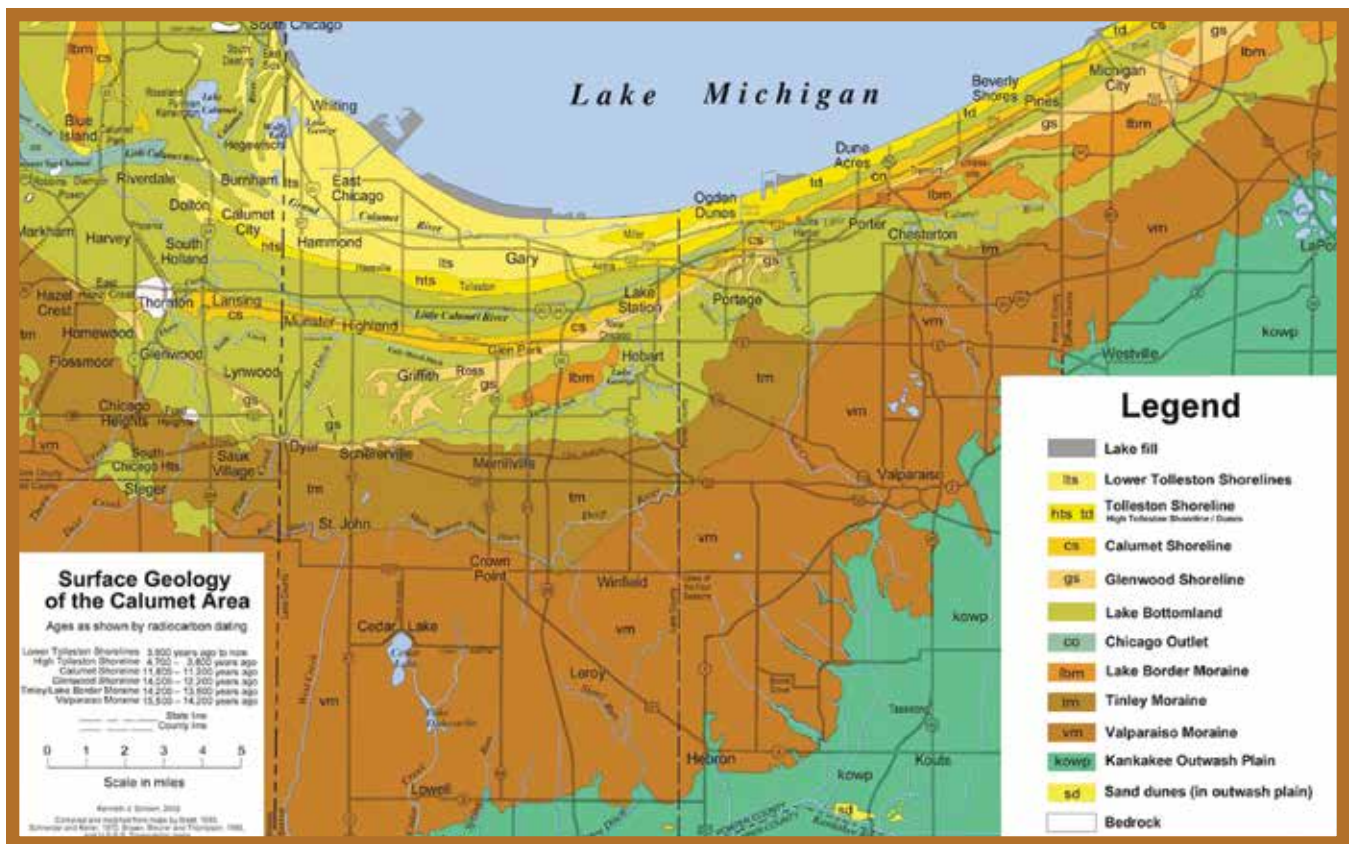
Natural Environment: A Flat, Wet, Post-Glacial Topography

Taken as a whole, the region's landforms provide a textbook example of the effects of late Wisconsin glacial deposition, with excellent and intact instances of characteristic features.

From the dunes and mills that line today's Lake Michigan to the enveloping Valparaiso Moraine that rises as much as two hundred feet above lake level some twenty miles to the south, the northern part of the region occupies the flat former bottom of glacial Lake Chicago. That lake was formed as the Pleistocene ice age began to come to an end roughly fifteen thousand years ago. As the climate warmed, the mile-high ice melted. The resulting lake, held in place by the moraine to the south of it and the ice behind it, was drained in stages (over Niagara Falls, or out the spillway through the moraine now occupied by the DesPlaines River southwest of downtown Chicago).

Each time the lake level dropped, a series of low, sandy beach ridges paralleling the lakefront developed. From south to north these were the Glenwood, Calumet, and Tolleston ridges. Sand Ridge Nature Preserve, a unit of the Cook County Forest Preserves which was rooted in the Burnham Plan and the visionary civic activism that marked turn of the century Chicago, sits astride the Calumet beach ridge. The ridges served to frame the watery swales that hold the floodplains of the Little and Grand Calumet Rivers, which meander through the flatness in search of Lake Michigan just a few miles away. For at least ten thousand years the ridges have also served as dry foot paths across the sodden landscape.

Ice age deposits mostly cover up bedrock, though where it appears, the Silurian dolomite that underlies the region creates significant landscape elements. At Thornton Quarry, the “grand canyon of the south suburbs,” the nearly 8 billion gallon capacity Thornton Composite Reservoir is the latest landmark effort in the re-engineering of the region's hydrology. Lake currents moving in a southerly direction down the western shore of glacial Lake Chicago encountered another outcrop—Stony Island—and piled trailing spits of sand into bars that drooped southward from the end of the island. In later days, these ridges would serve to impound the waters of shallow Lake Calumet—only 3 to 6 feet deep—and its nearby wetlands.



The physical landform of the Calumet region is a classic legacy of the ice age.

In this corner of the region, at the cul-de-sac of Lake Michigan where the shoreline changes from a north-south to an east-west orientation, the last two thousand years of lake recession and sand deposition played notes of landscape formation that echo to the present. Sandy lake bottom sediments ferried to the beach were blown into gentle dune ridges, a pattern repeated roughly a hundred times and ultimately yielding the finely textured “ridge and swale” landscape that characterizes the space between Lake Calumet and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. This Tollestson strandplain is now home to some of the most significant ecological restoration in the nation, side-by-side with massive industrial concerns that still call the region home.

Across the region’s mid-section sits the Valparaiso Moraine, where richly forested “knob and kettle” topography serves as a key landscape change from the flatness of the lake border country. The hills contain such features as Pinhook Bog, a National Natural Landmark. Streams flowing off the southern slopes of the moraine carried glacial outwash materials toward the now channelized Kankakee River. In the wide, flat floodplain of that river, a marsh called the “Everglades

of the North” served as a distinct boundary of the region until the river was drained in the early twentieth century to make an important farming zone. In places, though, where outwash sediments were blown into dunes in immediate post-glacial times, distinctive “sand islands” of oak-savanna remain.

The Calumet River rises in hilly moraine country just outside the lake plain in Red Mill County Park in LaPorte County, Indiana. Once the waters reach the lake plain, both the Grand and Little Calumet Rivers flow slowly *parallel* to Lake Michigan, held between intervening beach ridges. The Grand and Little Calumet Rivers today unite not far from the lake (about six miles south of it in Illinois), although the main channel through South Chicago was not likely created until the early nineteenth century. At one time the Grand Calumet River that—to put it strongly—“flows” across the landscape, actually had two outlets into Lake Michigan. (The western mouth was widened to form the main stem of the Calumet River beginning in 1869; the other, just east of the site of today’s U.S. Steel’s Gary Works, seems to have been closed by drifting sand by 1872.) Which mouth was “active” depended on wind and on current-borne sand in Lake Michigan.³



From Top: Quarry workers of Thornton; wetlands impounding water; Oak Savanna of Shirley Heinze Land Trust's Ivanhoe South preserve.

On the other side of the moraine surrounding the lake plain, waters flow toward the Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico, not to the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, and Atlantic Ocean. As Native Americans knew, and as French explorers beginning with Joliet and Marquette were to find out, one could canoe up either the Chicago or the Calumet to a point where one of the tributaries of the Mississippi might be just on the other side of the moraine, and a relatively easy portage away. One such passage could be found near present-day Portage, Indiana, in the Calumet system. But a far better one connected to the Chicago River.

The Chicago Portage: this was the key, as Joliet surmised in 1673 and as generations of city builders and historians have emphasized since, to the creation of the great American metropolis of the mid-continent.⁴ The early American government took steps to secure the canal corridor that Joliet suggested through purchases from Native Americans and through the construction of Forts Dearborn I and II at the river bend near Lake Michigan. Canal commissioners finally laid out a Town of Chicago in 1830 and the completion in 1848 marked a new phase in the vaulting expansion of Chicago. In the 1850s, the port of Chicago became the busiest in the world, and by time of the Civil War, the City was home to more than 100,000 residents, its river and lakefront crowded with grain elevators, lumber yards, warehouses, river barges, and lake vessels. At this point, the Calumet, while closer to the routes that converged on Chicago around the lake bottom, had become eccentric—off to the side of the main path of development—and subservient—its waters being diverted to feed those of the Illinois and Michigan Canal.⁵ But, as we shall see, its time as the hub of water-based commerce in the entire eastern United States would soon come.

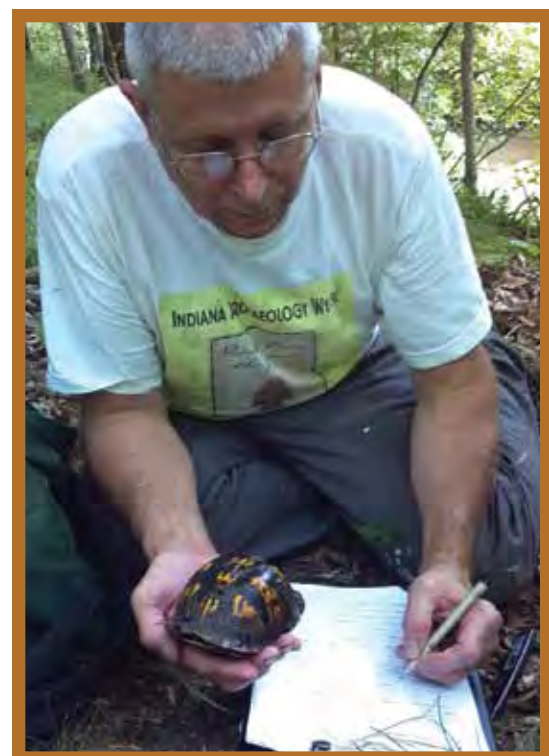
Natural Environment: Habitat for Diversity of Flora And Fauna

The landscape variations between sand and clay, ridge and marsh, lakeside and landside, set up local variations on grand continental themes and make for a place of uncommon—and given the subsequent urban/industrial land uses, unexpected—biological richness.

The Calumet region is an “Ecotone”—a transition zone where three great bio-regions come together. Like clasped fingers held parallel to the lake shore, one region gradually hands off its characteristics to the other. From the east come the deciduous forests of eastern North America, dominated by oak and hickory in well-drained soils and by beech and maple on wetter ground. The west opens up into the stunning tallgrass prairies of Illinois. Northern plant types and habitats are reminders of the recent glacial past, and a glimpse into boreal forest habitats of Michigan and Wisconsin. In addition, the region includes scattered occurrences of Atlantic coastal plain flora. The transitions can be seen fairly clearly on maps of what Meyer called the “fundament”, or the landscape as it appeared to European land surveyors in the first decades of the nineteenth century. Only a few prairies —such as Door, Morgan, and Robinson—perforate the wooded hills of the Indiana moraine country. On the other side of the state line, only a few groves—such as Thorn, Bloom, and Bachelor’s—punctuate the Illinois prairie.⁶



A rich array of habitat types is found in the Calumet region. Eastern hardwood forests meet grasslands, with arctic remnants from the ice age and dry land plants that thrive on sand.



The Field Museum holds collections from the Calumet region that date back to the 1890s. Botanical collections from this time are illustrated in the middle row above of publications, a collection record, illustration, and photograph of *Thismia americana*, the Calumet region’s only endemic plant. Field Museum scientists continue field studies and collecting today, including of iconic native species like the yellow headed blackbird and the eastern box turtle (here being studied by collections manager and Calumet resident Alan Resetar). Anthropology collections from the region include contemporary objects, such as the hard hat of an electrician worn at Inland Steel’s East Chicago Mill in the 1970s. It sports labels identifying his national and local union affiliations.

Land surveyors' eyes were trained to watch the landscape for settlement possibility. As the Chicago area filled up in the nineteenth century, simple curiosity and a desire to discover, collect, classify, and investigate drove an increasing number of local scientists into the field. Institutions like the Chicago Academy of Sciences, The Field Museum, and local colleges and universities took an especially strong interest in regional natural history. The Field Museum's collections now contain more than 20,000 objects and specimens from the region, including some rare or extirpated species. After its founding in 1892, botanists from the University of Chicago mastered train schedules and fanned out across the region. In the dunes area, Henry Chandler Cowles and Victor Shelford laid the groundwork for some of the key concepts in modern ecology, especially how plant communities undergo the processes of succession.

The high dunes at the southernmost part of the lake provide a variety of niches to plants and animals specially adapted to particular mixes of shade and sun, wind and calm, dry and wet. As Cowles put it:

Within a stone's throw of almost any spot one may find plants of the desert and plants of rich woodlands, plants of the pine woods, and plants of swamps, plants of oak woods and plants of the prairies. Species of the most diverse natural regions are piled here together in such abundance as to make the region a natural botanical preserve, not only of the plants that are characteristic of northern Indiana, but also of the plants of remote outlying regions.⁷

Cowles's studies started a chain of ecological work leading to the present that is attentive to the integrity of particular plant communities at the dunes. Starting at the lakeshore, these include the lower, middle and upper beaches, foredune, jackpine and black oak savanna, hardwood forest, and pannes. The Dunes are also home to bogs, fens, swamps, sedge meadows, and marshes.

On the lake plain away from the dunes, beach ridges and interdunal swales provide a patchwork of different habitats. Where water tables are high, marshes, swamps, and wet prairies predominate, with many bird species attracted to food sources and nesting sites. Where sandy beach ridges allow soils to drain, oak woodlands and prairie savannas hold sway.

The number and variety of life forms that call the region home is staggering. More than seven hundred plant species grace the region, more than eighty-five of which are deemed rare at the state or global scale. Among them is a plant seen nowhere else in the world, *Thismia americana*, which was last spotted in 1916.⁸ The 2002 Calumet BioBlitz, a regional effort centered at Eggers Woods, Powderhorn Lake, and Wolf Lake, turned up 2,259 plant and animal species in the twenty-four hour counting period.



In July 2011 Field Museum scientists organized participated in Calumet region "BioBlitz;" this time at the eastern end of the region. In just 24 hours, scientists and citizen scientists surveyed six natural areas in the Trail Creek Watershed in Michigan City, Indiana. This BioBlitz helped the municipal government identify high-quality natural areas and significant natural features in anticipation of designing a green corridor along Trail Creek.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore counts as the fourth most biodiverse of America's national parks, where plants like arctic bearberry might be found just steps from prickly pear cactus. Thirty percent of Indiana's threatened and endangered species are found at the Dunes.

The Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) lists eleven sites that are of statewide significance in the Calumet region. These sites represent over 4,500 acres with eight different natural community types. Twenty-six endangered and threatened species occurrences are also recorded by INAI. Striking examples of the region's rare and iconic plants are shown in a rapid color guide in Appendix H.



From top: Canadian bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*), eastern prickly pear (*Opuntia humifusa*), and sky blue aster (*Symphyotrichum oolentangiense*). These three plants illustrate how the region supports plants whose range extends to the arctic, the western deserts, and the expanse of the great plains. To learn more about these and other iconic or rare plants of the region, see *Appendix H*.

Threatened and endangered birds are attracted by the marshy setting along the great north-south continental flyway that passes through the region. The wetland ecosystems are excellent sources of food, nesting sites, and resting points for a wide variety of migrating birds. Today more than two hundred species of birds have been identified in the region, including eighteen that are rare at the global or state level. Twenty-five percent of Illinois's threatened and endangered bird species nest in the region. Birders are especially fond of the Illinois endangered Yellow-headed Blackbird and the Illinois and Indiana endangered Black-crowned Night Heron.⁹ Ecological restorations have been designed to sustain habitat for these species, but their numbers in the Calumet region are very low, a far cry from what a Field Museum curator wrote in 1909, that the Yellow-headed Blackbird was "once abundant in the vicinity of Chicago about Calumet Lake and is still not uncommon in that locality." They, and all the species that today are rare to the region, no doubt graced the daily lives of the people who lived there just a century before.



Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), endangered in Illinois and Indiana.

Peopling the Landscape

A region's ability to sustain population partly depends on the level of local resources and partly on people's ability to assemble what they need from many other places. The Calumet region's local resource base, with its species richness and diversity of habitats, was great for some ways of life, but, with its extensive wetlands and sandy soils, not so good for others. The region's location relative to other places, with its excellent access to other parts of the continent via water, and later trail, road, rail, highway, and pipeline, always seems to have been attractive to settlement. Early Woodland cultures and later Potawatomi thrived in the region, but European Corn Belt-style farming proved more difficult.

Native Americans. People have lived in the region since the glaciers retreated 10,000 years ago. Evidence remains of Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian peoples. The Hoxie Site is evidence that some “Fisher” cultures around 1400 AD found so much abundance in the biodiversity of the region that intensively occupied fortified villages were sustainable. Across the region’s 10,000 years, a wide variety of food production was practiced in the region, including hunting, fishing, gathering, horticulture, and agriculture. There is also strong evidence of trade with other regions in North America.

When the French arrived in the 1670s, the southern borders of Lake Michigan were occupied by Miami and Sauk, neighbored to the south and west by the groups collectively known as the Illinois. But peoples were on the move, adapting rapidly to new conditions sent in train by the fur trade, by the struggle between European powers for continental control, and by the intense Iroquois conflicts to the east that swept into the region. By 1700, as the Illinois moved west and the Miami moved east, their place in the region came to be dominated by the Potawatomi, though they were in frequent contact with a number of other peoples. The French distinguished the Potawatomi—“the people of the fire”—as the branch of the Miami that lived in forested regions as opposed to the prairie-dwelling Mascoutens. The Potawatomi lived in wigwams in agricultural villages. They hunted, fished, and raised turkeys and cultivated corn, beans, squash, peppers, potatoes, grapes, melons, and sunflowers. By 1830, there were thirty-six Potawatomi communities in northern Indiana and forty in Northeast Illinois with a combined population of over 6,000 people. Near present-day Westville, one village, Ish-kwan-dem, “the door”, was a “favorite location, being on the boundary of the prairie and at the entrance of woods or forest.” This “door” was the likely source of the name LaPorte. Another large village, at the location of present-day Merrillville, was a crossroads in the trail network like many others. Trails kept to the high ground wherever possible, including along the beach ridges.¹⁰

The fur trade. French fur traders and trappers first reached the Calumet region in the late seventeenth century. Accounts of their activities were written by Father Jacques Marquette, the best known French missionary to explore the Calumet region in 1673-75. Father Marquette, together with Father Louis Jolliet, explored and mapped the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, discovering a shorter route with the help of native peoples in returning to the Calumet area. In all likelihood, he traveled a route that took him into what is now Marquette Park in Gary.

With the French came the use of the term “Calumet.” This was their common term for the “peace pipe” so ritually important among native peoples in the mid-continent. These pipes consisted of pipestem reeds affixed to a bowl of good Minnesota pipestone. The reeds grew in many places, but their abundance in the Calumet wetlands helped to fix this name in place. In time, as Meyer would write in 1945 of the term’s “sentimental and euphonious appeal,”

The name Calumet has been applied, at one time or another, to more than a dozen and a half landscape forms—two rivers, a channel, a marsh, a lake, a harbor, a geologic formation, a township, four towns (Roseland, Calumet City, Chesterton, and Calumet), a gun club, a country club, a beach, a grove, two city parks, and multiple streets and industries. A golf course selected “Pipe O’Peace” as a suitable variant.¹¹

Jean Baptiste Point DuSable was the first known non-Native American resident of the Calumet area and founder of what was to be Chicago. He and his Potawatomi wife Catherine ran a fur trading post at Trail Creek in present-day Michigan City at the time of the American Revolution. After the land became a part of the American Northwest Territory in 1787, the fur trade came to be organized under the American Fur Company. In 1822, Joseph Bailly established a trading post along the Little Calumet that is reconstructed within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

European settlement. The fur trade had a profound effect on the Potawatomi, tying them into a vast trading network that brought new metal goods but lessened their self-sufficiency. And as European settlement came, pressure on the Potawatomi to move away increased. In seventeen short years between 1816 and 1833, twenty-eight treaties involving the Potawatomis and their neighbors saw them cede eighteen million



Native Americans are residents of the Calumet and Chicago region today. Here members of Chicago’s American Indian Center demonstrate drumming traditions they maintain as a diverse, urban Native American community.

acres of land east of the Mississippi. As historian Ann Durkin Keating put it, this was “an almost bloodless conquest of monumental proportions.”¹²

As part of the “Ten Mile Purchase” from the Potawatomi in 1826, Indiana’s northern boundary was nudged that much further north from the very southern point of Lake Michigan. (Northward from roads now marked Indian Boundary in Miller and Chesterton now lie the Indiana ports of Michigan City and Burns Harbor.)¹³ By 1833, the Potawatomi were forced to leave the region, although the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, who were awarded Federal recognition in 1994, remain in southern Michigan and northern Indiana (close to but not in the Calumet region) and still live in this area.

A man deeply involved in the Potawatomi “trail of death” removal to Kansas in 1838 was John Tipton, who became a government agent for the Potawatomi in 1823. Two years earlier he played a key role as surveyor of the state boundary line that caused the Illinois-Indiana State Line Marker (the oldest structure in the City of Chicago) to be set in place. Not only did Tipton’s role as surveyor signal a new approach to land ownership, he also expressed a new attitude about the possibilities of the Calumet region. And he was not impressed: “the country falls off into pond and marshes that can never admit settlement nor ever be of much service to our state.”¹⁴

The federal government’s land sales and Indian removal practices played a significant role in attracting Euro-American settlers to the western portions of the region. The vast Kankakee marshes tended to slow migration from the south, and early settler populations tended to have a “Yankee” character. Toward the east, the Michigan Road facilitated settlements by southerners.¹⁵ While the state of Indiana was formed in 1816, counties in the northwestern part of the state were among the last to be formed: LaPorte in 1832, Porter in 1835, and Lake in 1837. A federal land office at LaPorte was established in 1833 and facilitated early



The Moraine was not only easier to farm, but easier to travel across than the lake plain. The LaPorte to Valparaiso Stagecoach ran from the 1840s until 1870.



This DAR marker is located on the south side of the Sauk Trail on the Forest Preserve District of Cook County’s Schubert’s Woods in their Thorn Creek division.

land sales, including the 1836 sale to Solon Robinson, the founder of Crown Point. Early settlers typically selected land with a mix of timber and prairie, and for this, the moraine country was far better suited than the nearly impassable lake plain. County seats appeared at LaPorte, Valparaiso, and Crown Point, serving as centers of commerce, banking and transshipment. Blue Island, IL was founded on a remnant spur of the Tinley Moraine in 1835.

By the 1850s, the early phases of the establishment of a European farming presence in the region were maturing into a landscape increasingly well-connected to markets—especially that of the burgeoning city of Chicago—by better transportation and by rapid adoption of agricultural innovation. Key routes like the Vincennes Trace and Sauk Trail followed earlier Indian and fur trading paths and the stage was set for the rapid expansion of railroads in the decade before the Civil War. A firm that would become widely known for agricultural equipment production, the Rumelys, migrated from Germany to LaPorte in 1848 and by the time of the War was producing threshers and shelling machines. By 1860, LaPorte County led Indiana counties in wheat production.

Though the Calumet region was off the beaten path of European settlement in Illinois and Indiana, by the time of the Civil War the stage had been set for significant change. In less than three decades, Potawatomis had been “removed”, new farms and towns had been planted, and the skeins of steel that would catalyze change in post-bellum America were already knotting up at the south end of Lake Michigan, amid the tranquil sands and wetlands.

PART TWO

“The World’s Largest Industrial District”

Not only does the Calumet region provide textbook geological and biological examples, it also headlines the texts of industrial developers, economic geographers, and urban historians. They find it to be a leading example of the post-Civil War industrial urbanization of the United States. The Calumet region would be a central player in the remaking of the American landscape in the industrial era, with changes wrought to how and where things were made, how the very landscape was re-shaped to make a place for industry, how peoples and communities were drawn together around the needs of production, and how new movements emerged to assert and ensure—from the workshops themselves into the communities and landscapes around them—that massive changes in the world’s largest industrial district should not come at the cost of a better quality of life.

Most writers on the history of American urbanization and economy point to the major re-orientation that occurred between the Civil War and World War II. It was based on the interrelated extraction of coal and iron ore; the rise of integrated production systems especially in the iron and steel industry but also vehicles, chemicals, machine tools, and electric appliances; the stitching together of these systems by an integrated

national transportation network especially in railroads; the rise of corporate forms of business organization; and the recruitment of large labor forces from Europe and the southern United States.¹⁶ This national re-orientation gave rise to the regional dominance of the western Great Lakes, and particularly, in the area of steel production, the dominance of the Western anchor of the Manufacturing Belt—the Calumet region. This region developed into what historian Robert Lewis argues was the “world’s largest industrial district in the first half of the twentieth century.”¹⁷

The Calumet region went from being an afterthought “of no service to the state” to being the symbol and center of industry at the western end of the Great Lakes. By 1882, Calumet historian Weston Goodspeed predicted that “...whatever this region lacks that it should have, or has that it should lack, it has unquestionably advantages of location that in time will produce great results. Its features that have proved most disadvantageous in the past may be the most advantageous in the future.”¹⁸

The region possessed a set of features beautifully suited to the new age, and soon began to exert a magnetic attraction on industrial development. Geographer Charles Colby thought the area was a perfect example of the “centripetal” tendencies in the development of cities. While mindful of industries like transportation equipment manufacturing and oil and gas refining, Colby drove his point home about the region’s irresistible pull by marking the rapid rise of the iron and steel industry. He relied on the classic list of Calumet’s site and situational virtues first proposed in John Appleton’s pioneering economic study of the iron and steel industry in 1927. It included:

(1) large parcels of unoccupied land available at low prices..., (2) lake front or river locations, (3) the sandy character of the lake plain which made dredging and excavations for slips a simple engineering task, (4) an abundance of water, (5) marsh or lake areas for dumpage of waste materials, (6) freedom of use, in that control of the land made it practicable to perfect economies of plant layout and operation..., (7) adequate transportation facilities..., these facilities resulting from a combination of lake transportation and belt-line contact with all railroads entering Chicago, and (8) proximity to the Chicago reservoir of labor.¹⁹

Of great appeal for industrial developers was how the physical landscape of the region conformed to the models of the economic geographers. Setting aside the need for a little hydraulic and civil engineering, what could be more flat and featureless? The great steel making cities of Sheffield and Pittsburgh are loaded with textbook-violating, eye-filling physical geographic “character”—hilly, timbered, riven by



Top: An ore boat on the Calumet River passes a blast furnace at Illinois Steel’s South Works, which would become U.S. Steel. The convergence of channelized water, rails, and open space along the Calumet River resulted in four steel mills lining its banks by the time of this photo (1918) along with other industries such as flour mills. Bottom: U.S. Steel South Works, a decade later.



Wisconsin Steel, the successor to the first steel mill that located in the region in 1875, took advantage of a widened and deepened Calumet River.

meandering streams. The Calumet region, in contrast, was a tabula rasa for industrial development, a good place to innovate, as at Gary, with “the first example of the deliberate application of the principles of scientific location of industry in this century.”²⁰

The industrial move to the Calumet region first headed south from Chicago to the Calumet River area in Illinois, and then moved from west to east into Indiana. Not only was Calumet attractive to this development, but as the great metropolis struggled to cope with its booming, choking, burning size and congestion and unattractive urban space, industrial land uses were increasingly repelled from the city’s center. While the main stem of the Chicago River retained an industrial character deep into the twentieth century, post-Chicago Fire reconstruction led, among other things, to the development of more leisure spaces downtown, especially on Lake Michigan. When industries in central Chicago began to take stock of their situation and realized that large amounts of cheap land were available just to the south, they—and their allies in the Army Corps of Engineers, municipal government, and transportation interests—took their place as landforming agents alongside wind, water, ice, and the other primal forces that give shape to the earth’s crust. Industrialists were already on the move into the Calumet region by the time the Southeast Side area was annexed into the city of Chicago in 1889. The annexation made it even more certain that as the city expanded, it could begin to think in concert about its two river-oriented areas and their complementary roles. Downtown would be the grand civic space and the Calumet would be the grand industrial workshop, the epitome of a “steel rail” metropolis.

The “Steel Rail” Period

The region’s rise to industrial prominence after the Civil War is a major illustration of what John Borchert called the “Steel Rail” period in American economic history, which lasted from roughly 1870 to 1920. In an influential article written forty years ago, Borchert, who grew up just south of the steelmaking district in Crown Point, traced the effects of transportation and technological change on “American Metropolitan Evolution.” The metropolitan areas that “boomed” in this period were those best positioned within the national railroad network and able to make the most of business innovations that made it possible to picture vast quantities of increasingly inexpensive steel in efficiently laid out mills.

The Calumet region had both; it was central to the rise of the “Steel Rail” period. The Bessemer converter vastly increased the potential to produce large amounts of cheap steel. The less expensive steel was, the more it was used. The more it was used, the more steel could be made. Steel rails extended into the coal fields of the western interior; steel-sided lake boats could bring in iron ore from the upper Great Lakes; steel locomotives could efficiently burn coal instead of wood on steel, instead of iron-strapped wood rails; steel railcars could carry heavier loads. Trains could go faster, longer, stronger.

While it was first employed by the North Chicago Rolling Mills along the North Branch of the Chicago River in the early 1860s, the logic of the new steel making technology suggested that bigger sites were necessary to replace the cramped quarters along that stream. The Calumet region awaited, and by 1881, North Chicago Rolling Mills was building its South Works at the mouth of the Calumet River, joining the Brown Ironworks (1875) which had built upstream and was to evolve into International Harvester’s Wisconsin Steel Company.

After the turn of the century, Indiana sites became more important, especially with Inland Steel (1901), Gary (1906), and Mark Manufacturing (1914). The evolution of these firms also illustrates the growing vertical and horizontal integration of the industry characteristic of the era: the very evolution of the name of South Works into Carnegie-Illinois into U.S. Steel suggests the ever expanding scope of operations and administration. When it was completed in 1962, Bethlehem Steel’s Burns Harbor, Indiana, plant was the last integrated steel facility to be built in the United States where materials moved all the way from raw form to finished product.

“As a boy in the 1920s and early 1930s I lived, by chance, on the edge of one of the steepest geographical gradients in the world at that time. On one side of the gradient stood my home town, Crown Point, Indiana. At that time it was in most ways a typical Corn Belt county seat of 2500. ...Yet just ten miles north of my home town was the south edge of the new, 100-thousand city of Gary, laid out less than a decade earlier by the U.S. Steel Corporation on the marshes and sand dunes at the south end of Lake Michigan. Just five miles farther north were the gates of the largest steel mills in the world, the economic base of Gary. ... The train ride from Crown Point to the heart of Chicago took 59 minutes. Through the dirty day-coach windows I watched, on trip after trip, the quick, bewildering transition from my rural home countryside, through a heavy industrial complex that matched the Ruhr and the Pittsburgh-Cleveland axis for world leadership...” —JOHN BORCHERT

In spite of closures, the region is still critically important to the American steel industry. In 2014, five of the nation’s eleven integrated steel mills were located in the Calumet region, including its largest producer, ArcelorMittal’s Indiana Harbor works. In addition to the large integrated mills, there are several other key producers, including a plant that Russian-based Novolipetsk Steel purchased in Portage, Indiana in 2010. In a move reminiscent of North Chicago Rolling Mills more than a century before, A. Finkl and Sons moved from a plant by the North Branch of the Chicago River to the Calumet region in Chicago in 2011.

Railroads were central to the ability to assemble raw materials and to distribute finished products to the market. The lines themselves had begun to come around the cul-de-sac at the end of Lake Michigan in the 1850s, connecting Chicago to the national grid by the time of the Civil War. After the war the number of lines increased, with multiple pathways between Chicago and the East Coast and Chicago and the South enhancing competition and ensuring that most places had rail service. (When this thick network began to be pruned in the later twentieth century, it would offer the region a wealth of “rails to trails” recreational opportunities.)

Building the lines through the Calumet region posed no problem: a map of railroads through the region shows a series of straight-line tangents cutting across the Calumet, and then markedly deviating from the “air line” when encountering the moraine country. While building in wetlands required some special engineering considerations, usually these were solved with relatively simple filled embankments.

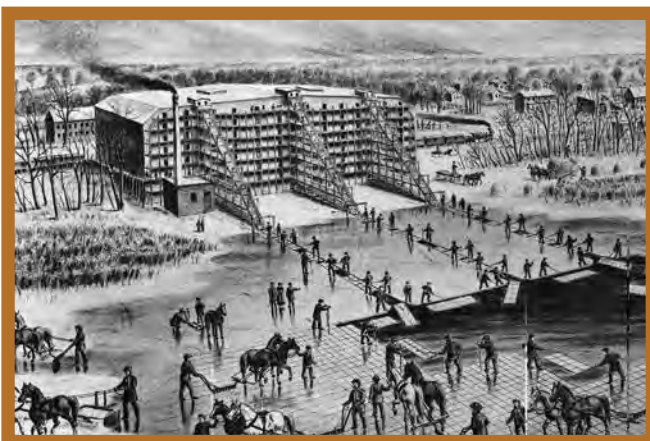


A freight train traveling through Porter County. John Borchert grew up in Crown Point, Indiana, which he described as being just outside of one of the greatest industrial powerhouses in the world.

Due to the network of railroads, farmers now had places to bring their produce for quick transport to the Chicago market. Farmers of the Calumet region began to specialize in milk, vegetables, and floral products, which because of their bulk and perishability were best produced near the major market. Stations and junctions blossomed into towns. Messages running on telegraph poles or in the mail and freight cars extended the “metropolitan corridor” through the region. Passengers on trains had a window on the regions they passed through as “scenery”, at first as a somewhat remote wetland region. Henry Chandler Cowles’s first experience of the Dunes in 1896 was a leg-stretching break when his train stopped for water. But by the turn of the twentieth century, factory smoke and steam filled the passengers’ views.²¹

After the turn of the century, passengers and freight were increasingly carried through the region on steel framed railcars. Pullman was an iconic producer and operator of passenger cars, but was also a leading freight car manufacturer. By the 1930s, and through mergers with companies in Hammond and Michigan City, the Pullman-Standard Company was the nation's leading railcar manufacturer. And it was not alone in its production of steel railcars in the region: other leading producers included Western Steel Car & Foundry in Hegewisch, Hicks Locomotive and Car Company in Chicago Heights, and General American Tank Car in East Chicago. Railroads like the Rock Island and Illinois Central had major shops in the region where cars were produced.

Once established in the region, the steel industry proved to be magnetically attractive to a variety of other related businesses. A further web of industrial and short line railroads like the Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern, Indiana Harbor Belt, and Belt Railroad of Chicago moved steel from mills to fabricators with relative ease. Steel supply companies, refractory manufacturers, and by-products producers burgeoned. Other firms were attracted by the availability of inexpensive steel in the context of location in the Chicago market, or by the region's centrality to the national rail network, or by the region's location immediately adjacent to agricultural areas. G.H. Hammond was attracted to the rail junction that would become its namesake city in 1869 and used ice cut from nearby Wolf Lake in his refrigerated railcars. Industrial facilities were located across the region in new industrial suburbs like Chicago Heights and Harvey or old country towns like Valparaiso and LaPorte. Urschel Laboratories in Valparaiso was founded in 1908 selling its Gooseberry Snipper to canneries in Michigan.



Knickerbocker Ice Company operation at Wolf Lake, probably in the 1880s. The abundance of natural ice from area waters, combined with rail access, is one of the factors that made the area favorable for shipping perishable food, and ice, out to other parts of the country.

Building on the Boom

Having grown to a critical mass during Borchert's "Steel Rail" period, the coal-steel-rail complex remained integral during the next phase he names: the "Auto-Air-Amenity" period. In fact, there is a close relationship between the steel producers and the automotive industry.

Standard Oil established a refinery at Whiting in 1889, initially to refine crude from Indiana-Ohio oil fields into kerosene. As the automobile industry burgeoned and the demand for a wider variety of fuels surged, the refinery became a major supplier to the Midwestern gasoline consumer and the leading supplier of jet fuels to O'Hare and Midway airports. It has risen to become the sixth largest refinery in the United States.



Chicago students in the Earth Force program pay a visit to East Chicago's historic Marktown community. They are looking north at the new British Petroleum (BP) coking towers, part of a nearly four billion dollar investment BP made in its Whiting refinery to process Canadian tar sands that arrive by pipeline. Some people are appreciative of jobs, corporate philanthropy, and products they use every day. Others are concerned about BP's production of climate changing fossil fuels and by-products like petcoke, and the company's efforts to buy and demolish Marktown.



The “Ideal Section” of the Lincoln Highway was rededicated in 2016.

Meanwhile, Ford has undertaken round after round of reinvestment at its Torrence Ave. plant in Hegewisch, where it has made everything from Model Ts to hybrids. In 1926, Ford’s architect Albert Kahn built one of his characteristically “modern” structures, a hangar at what is now Lansing Municipal Airport to house Ford Tri-Motor planes. In 1956, Ford Motor built a Stamping Plant along Lincoln Highway in Chicago Heights. Lincoln Highway itself was a pioneering coast-to-coast road built in the days before highway numbering, and the one-mile “ideal” stretch of road in Dyer set a path for what future divided highways might look like.

Currently, about a fifth of ArcelorMittal’s steel production is destined for automotive use worldwide, but Burns Harbor primarily serves the automobile industry and about two-fifths of Indiana Harbor’s market is automotive. Automotive customers are also highly important for U.S. Steel’s Gary Works. ArcelorMittal maintains a Research and Development facility in East Chicago designed by noted modernist architect Myron Goldsmith that is primarily oriented to the auto industry, including developing lighter car bodies for improved gasoline mileage.

Another key element of the “Auto-Air-Amenity” complex is the use of electricity. Industrial users are huge consumers and vast “cathedrals of power” such as the now demolished State Line Generating Station were built to serve the regional demand in the early twentieth century. In order to even out load factors in off-peak times (the relationship between actual use and peak capacity), systems-building utility industry managers like Samuel Insull encouraged the domestic

consumption of electricity and also set up electrical street and interurban railroad systems. Like many metropolitan areas, the Calumet region developed a set of “streetcar” suburbs with slightly larger homes for workers who could afford the fares. Unlike other metropolitan regions, the region retained an interurban rail line longer than anywhere else: the South Shore railroad is the last electric interurban in the country. It connects at Kensington in Chicago with the former Illinois Central electric line, the only line in Metra’s commuter rail network that uses electricity.²²

The creation of a vast industrial complex drew on the combination of abundant rail and water connections. They worked like a huge magnet for industrial development, especially where rail met water. To create this magnet was a significant undertaking with far-reaching effects.



The Calumet region’s two electric commuter rail lines. The Metra Electric travels north-south between downtown Chicago and southern suburbs that sit on the Illinois side of the stateline. The South Shore line travels east-west from Chicago to South Bend, Indiana, making stops all along the southern rim of Lake Michigan.



The landmark South Shore Line blossomed at just the moment natural areas started to be protected in the Dunes area.

Re-arranging the Waters

Much reworking of the landscape, particularly of hydrology, was indeed required in the Calumet region to make it industrially productive. This meant straightening the Calumet River, connecting to the Chicago and DesPlaines rivers systems, filling and draining wetlands, and adding land to Lake Michigan.

Work began in earnest in 1870, when the Army Corps of Engineers built structures three hundred feet out into the lake on either side of the Calumet River to prevent the relentless sand from filling in the mouth. Then they dredged a channel in a soggy swale to the junction with the Grand Calumet, and soon made several serious, though ultimately futile, efforts to make the Grand Calumet navigable east of that junction through Hammond. Industrial activity began in earnest with the movement of the forerunner of the South Works of U.S. Steel to the river mouth in 1875. (Today, as if to declare the Grand Calumet off-limits to navigation, a sunken vessel named the *Baby Doll*, marks the river's entry into the main stem of the Calumet.) By 1871, the first cargo ships called at Calumet Harbor. Since 1906, when Calumet Harbor surpassed Chicago Harbor in tonnage received, it has been the city's principal port.²³

Navigation interests became more organized with the establishment of the Chicago Harbor Commission in 1908. The Commission forwarded a number of proposals to improve navigation, but it is important to note that it also oversaw, with the completion of the Cal-Sag Channel in 1922, the reversal of the flow of the Calumet River. Subsequent widenings made the potential reverse flow even greater. By 1965, when the O'Brien Lock and Dam was constructed just south of 130th Street in Chicago, the drainage system and pattern of flow had been altered. Today, the lock allows boats to transit between Lake Michigan and the Lockport Pool on the Illinois Waterway.²⁴



The O'Brien Lock and Dam controls the flow between the watersheds of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River.

A somewhat similar chain of events unfolded in Indiana. In 1901, work began to create Indiana Harbor and to connect it to the Grand Calumet River via the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal. When Gary was developed in 1906, the Grand Calumet River was relocated about a half mile south of its historic course, and now ran through banks of masonry and slag for several miles. In 1926, the Burns Ditch—now Burns Waterway—connected the upper reaches of the Little Calumet River with Lake Michigan just east of Ogden Dunes. These canals and diversions not only made it possible for port development, but they also served to drain the marshes, to create a new set of passages where storm runoff could go, and to provide pathways for invasive aquatic species to enter the river system. A check dam at the Indiana Harbor Canal sends most waters east of East Chicago into Lake Michigan via that canal. West of that structure, environmental managers now consider the Grand Calumet a part of the Illinois Waterway system. West of Burns Waterway, waters of the Little Calumet River also head toward the Illinois Waterway.²⁵

Since there is such a shortage of natural drainage in the area, a network of municipal sewer feeders and mains has been created across the region that speeds storm water to the waterway system. A set of “interceptors” paralleling the Lake Michigan shores catches runoff before it can move into the lake and, driven by huge pumps, channels it to area sewage treatment facilities. This was accompanied by the same raising of street grade seen in downtown Chicago, although in the poorer communities of the Calumet region, property owners rarely jacked up their buildings to the new grade level. A common sight across the region is to see homes with first floor below street grade connected by bridged entrances from “vaulted sidewalks” abutting the street to a main entry relocated to the second floor.²⁶

Today, the O'Brien Lock and Dam serves as an important hydrological structure controlling the flow between the Great Lakes watershed and the Mississippi River watershed.



The view along the Calumet River from the 106th Street bridge to the Chicago Skyway bridge (background). The importance of the river for moving bulk commodities is apparent in the barge traffic, and bulk storage of limestone and coal visible on either bank of the river.

Re-making the Land

As government created access to land and transportation infrastructure, industries, attracted by the waterfront location and cheap land soon began to alter their sites. The growing scale of late nineteenth century industrial operations meant that factories themselves were larger and internally and externally linked to each other in “integrated” fashion. They needed docking and rail facilities to receive raw materials and to ship finished products. They needed land to stockpile raw materials and parts. They needed room to grow. Frequently, they also needed room to dump waste. The Calumet area not only had lower land costs (a function of distance from the congested Chicago real estate market) but it also had sheer size.²⁷

The regional attractions for industrial development that exerted so strong a pull to South Chicago soon extended across the state line. Being further from the city of Chicago meant that land costs were cheaper and competing urban land uses were less of a factor. A thick web of trunk rail lines already coursed through the area by the time heavy industrial development began in earnest. The sandy lakefront could easily be pushed aside to make way for port facilities and urban development. And while Illinois’ Public Trust Doctrine required that any lakefilling proceed for the public benefit, Indiana allowed private expansion into Lake Michigan.²⁸

The railroads were the “first major change agents of the landscape.” Railroad rights-of-way had an enormous impact on the area that went beyond the noise, smoke, and danger of the rolling trains. Their embankments fragmented wetlands and altered drainage patterns. Hot cinders started prairie fires. Maintenance of way crews trimmed and pruned back vegetation, in

later years applying pesticides to the task. Railroads demanded water and sand, both regional specialties.

Not only did they project their own level grades across a subtly undulating landscape, cutting here and filling there, but they also fostered land re-shaping trackside industries. They hauled “astronomical” amounts of sand from convenient locations in the dunes country. Where clay soils predominated, clay pits and brick-yards clustered along the tracks. Post-fire Chicago was a huge market for bricks, new wood frame housing construction having been banned within the city limits. In 1927 it was said that “by far the most of the clay products used in the region of Chicago are of local manufacture” and in that year Cook County ranked “as the foremost brick-producing county in the United States.” Most brickyards have now closed, but the associated pits frequently remain.²⁹

Sand was a spectacular resource by itself. Sand mining was an important industry in Porter and Lake counties, even before the steel industry came. Thousands of railroad cars of sand were exported to help fill Grant Park in downtown Chicago after the Chicago Fire. Railroads required sand for locomotives to increase friction on steel rails and steel driving wheels when getting underway. Much of the material for building Chicago’s elevated rail embankments in the first quarter of the twentieth century came from the dunes. By 1927 it was said that “whole trainloads are daily hauled away.”



Past sand mining at West Beach in the National Lakeshore is visible both in the contours of the land and the objects left behind. At top the flat plain that meets the tall dunes was created by the removal of railcar after railcar of sand, leaving only the dunes closest to the lake. At bottom a rusting rail left behind when the mining operation ended.

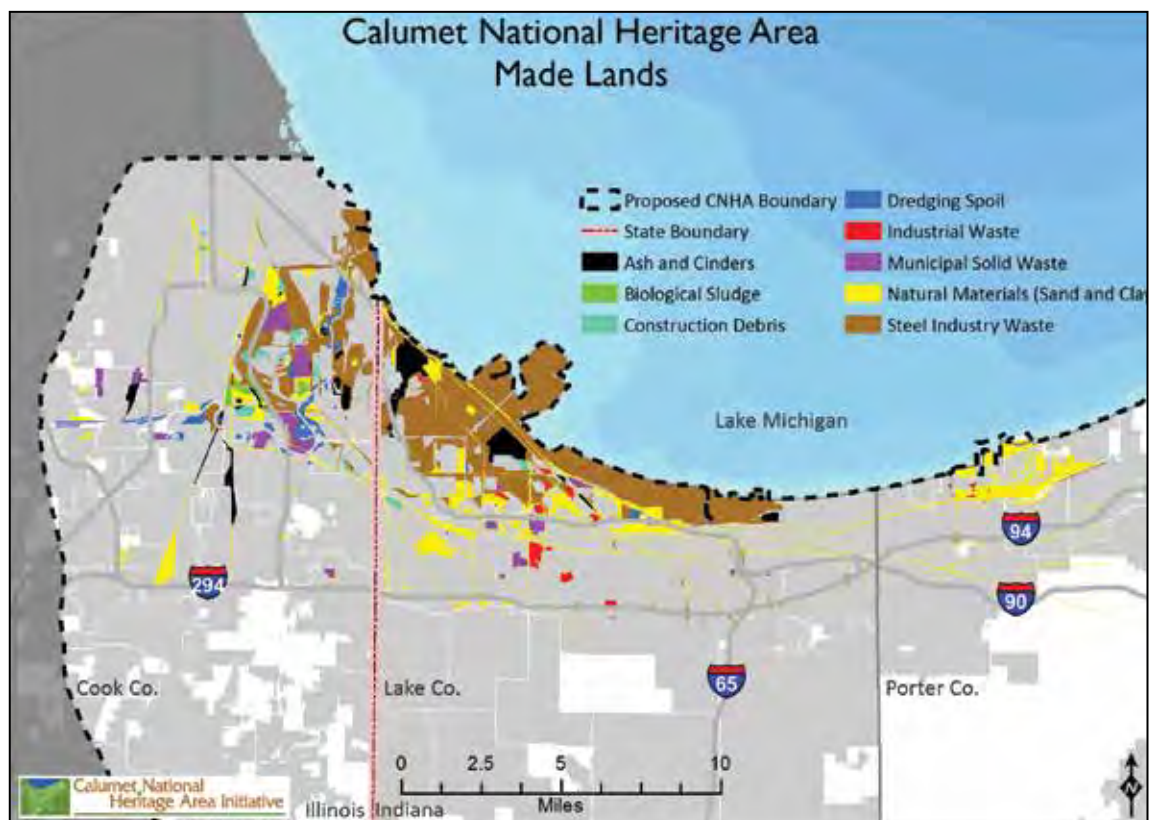
Glassmaking firms such as Ball Glass of Muncie and Pittsburgh Plate Glass of Kokomo removed tons of sand, much of it from the Hoosier Slide dune that towered over Michigan City, in the first two decades of the century. The result was that huge sections of the dune country—as much as a square mile at a time—were leveled of this defining material.³⁰

Leveling land on the one hand, industry made land on the other. The distribution of “made land” in the Calumet region roughly aligns with the areas of heaviest industrial usage, and even the casual reader of a regional road map could pick out the relatively geometric projections that encroach on Lake Michigan. From approximately 75th Street in Chicago southward, and around to Miller Beach in Gary and then a hopscotch over Ogden Dunes to Burns Harbor, the Lake Michigan shoreline is made land. To be sure, some of this is civic or recreational space, as at Rainbow Beach and Calumet Park in Chicago, or the Hammond and Whiting parks. To make land for parks is a Chicagoland tradition that precedes even the Burnham plan.

But the most extensive made land was put there by industry. From west to east, these are the significant portions of made land and the companies that built them: U.S. Steel and Youngstown Sheet and Tube in South Chicago, Commonwealth Edison at the State Line, Amoco Oil in Whiting, Youngstown Sheet and

Tube and Inland Steel (on its huge peninsula) in East Chicago, and the various facilities of U.S. Steel in Gary. Eleven million cubic yards of sand were moved when the U.S. Steel Gary Works was built, much of it pumped onto the site from Lake Michigan.³¹ Dune mining continued into the 1960s at Burns Harbor, where in addition to removing some of the highest and most spectacular of the sand dunes, Bethlehem Still built part of its new operations on fill in Lake Michigan. According to Schoon, between 1900 and the late 1970s, more than 3,775 acres—roughly six square miles—of Lake Michigan in Indiana were filled in.³²

At times the fill used to create this new land was a byproduct of the industrial operations themselves. When making steel a residue called slag is created, and a great problem in the industry is what to do with it. Using it as Lake Michigan fill was highly attractive to South Works and to Inland Steel, which had big peninsulas to build. But the steel manufacturers who were a few miles from Lake Michigan like Wisconsin Steel and Republic Steel had no such place to put it. The solution? The slag would simply be dumped into adjacent wetlands. The showy process by which Wisconsin Steel dumped hot slag in the South Deering community area fascinated neighborhood onlookers and dating high-schoolers and bequeathed a local neighborhood name—Slag Valley.



A wide variety of materials have been used to fill in wetlands, change the shape of the lake, and create rail and highway beams that crisscross the wetlands.



From left: Wisconsin Steel dumping slag in Slag Valley. Slag Valley was located northeast of the mill and just west of the Slag Valley/Veterans Park neighborhood, which made it an easy place for residents to view the dumping; rows of petroleum storage tanks fill former wetlands spaces in northwest Indiana.

Other types of industrial land use created striking landscape changes. For example, large portions of land in the Tolleston strandplain of Northwest Indiana are given over to the storage of crude and refined petroleum in tank farms. In case of leakage from an individual tank, each one is set within a bermed, graded, and drained containment area, the entire group constituting a checkboard-like grid that can stretch for a mile or more. These tank farms cover more than a thousand acres.

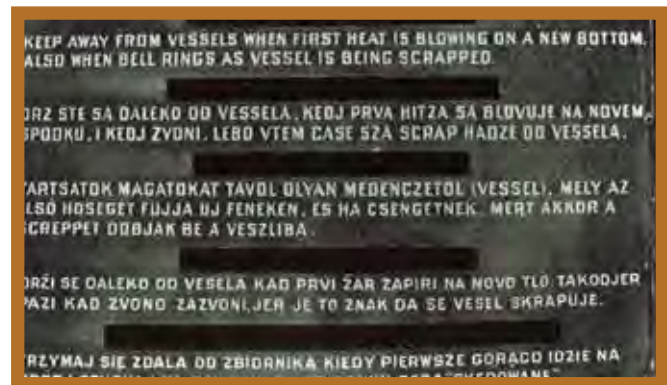
In various ways, then, building on the impetus provided by public agencies such as the Army Corps of Engineers, private industries played a geomorphologic role in rearranging the physical landscape of the region: they cut down the heights and filled in the lowlands and thereby flattened an already flat terrain. In the process, soggy land was made dry; shallow waters were made to run more deeply; and the boundary between land and water, formerly subject to great daily, seasonal, and annual fluctuations—if indeed a “boundary” existed at all—was fixed tightly in place.³³

Attracting Workers, Building Communities

Industrial expansion not only brought shattering change to the lands and waters of the Calumet region in the “Steel-Rail” period, it also changed the lives of thousands of people. Drawn to work in a previously sparsely settled region where industrial plants of

unprecedented scope now operated, many people made epic voyages from points around the compass to work where labor was demanded. In environments dominated by the needs of production, families and communities built resilient and diverse neighborhoods.

Historian Ann Durkin Keating examined the origins of two hundred thirty-three nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century settlements in the “Chicagoland” area and classified them according to the nature of their origin as farm center, industrial town, commuter rail suburb, or recreational/institutional center. Table 1 presents Keating’s data and further breaks it down into Calumet region (the study area boundary) and non-Calumet region.



Sign cautions workers in five languages at U.S. Steel South Works.

TABLE 1: Community Type by Impetus for Origin, Chicago and Calumet Regions

Settlement Type	Chicagoland	%	Calumet	%	Non-Calumet	%
Agricultural trade centers	96	41.2	21	41.2	75	41.2
Satellite cities/industrial towns	70	30.0	26	51.0	44	24.2
Railroad commuter suburbs	35	15.0	0	0.0	35	19.2
Recreational/institutional towns	32	13.7	4	7.8	28	15.4
TOTAL	233	100.0	51	100.0	182	100.0

Source: Keating, *Chicagoland*.

The table offers important clues into the residential structure of the Calumet region that make it such a distinctive and significant landscape:

- More than half of the communities in the Calumet area found their origin as industrial suburbs or satellite cities. More than twice as many communities were founded on this basis in the Calumet region than in areas outside the Calumet. More than a third of all the industrial-origin communities in the Chicago area are to be found in the Calumet region.
- The Calumet region has no railroad commuter suburbs, a type with which the Chicago region is well supplied and, indeed, according to Keating, is “a factor that makes Chicago distinctive.”
- The Calumet has a backcloth of agricultural settlement similar to the rest of Chicagoland. These are important local examples of the transformation of farming regions in the shadow of large-scale industrial urbanization.

TABLE 2: Industrial-Origin Communities/Satellite Cities (by date of foundation/incorporation)

Community Name	Date	Dominant Industry	Population in 1930			
			Total	% Foreign Born	Significant Ethnicities	% Black
Greater Grand Crossing CA	1850s	RR junction	60,007	21.4	Irish, German, Swedish, Italian	.4
South Chicago CA	1870s	Steel	56,683	23.6	Polish, Italian, Mexican, Serbian, Croatian	1.3
East Side CA	1870s	Steel	16,839	26.1	German, Swedish, Croatian, Slovenian, Serbian, Italian	--
South Deering CA	1870s	Steel	7,898	28.7	Irish, Swedish, Mexican	--
Pullman CA	1880s	Railcars	6,705	41.3	Italian, Polish	--
West Pullman CA	1900s	Farm machinery, Paint	28,474	31.2	German, Scandinavian, Italian, Polish, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Armenian	.6
Hegewisch CA	1890s	Railcars	7,890	32.3	Polish, Serbian, Croatian, Czech, Swedish, Irish	---
Michigan City	1836	Railcars	26,734	12.3		4.0
Hammond	1883	Railcars	64,560	30.3	German	1.0
East Chicago	1889	Steel	54,784	34.7		9.3
Hobart	1889	Bricks	5,787	11.5		.1
Harvey	1891	Diverse	16,374	16.4		2.5
Chicago Heights	1892	Steel	22,321	21.6	Italian, Polish, Slovak, Lithuanian, Irish	9.8
Riverdale	1892	Steel	2,504	15.3	Irish, Swedish, German	--
Whiting	1895	Petroleum Refining	10,880	42.5	Slovak, Croatian, Finnish, German, Hungarian, Irish, Polish	--
Steger	1896	Pianos	2,985	16.2	German	.3
Chesterton	1899	RR junction	2,231	--		--
Phoenix	1900	Residential	3,033	24.9	Dutch, Polish	15.1
Posen	1900	Residential	4,517	28.2	Polish	0.0
Glenwood	1903	RR depot	603	--		--
Griffith	1904	Junction	1,176	23.3		.5
Gary	1906	Steel	100,426	19.3	Italian, Greek, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Croatian, Mexican	17.8
Burnham	1907	Residential	994	--		--
Calumet City	1911	Residential	12,298	17.9	Polish, German, Irish	.2
Hazel Crest	1911	Railyards	1,162	13.9	Polish, Italian, Serbian	0.0
Markham	1925	Railyards	349	--		--

Note: “CA” = Chicago Community Area. “Date of Foundation” is date of incorporation for municipalities. For community areas, it is the first effective date of industrialization. “Dominant industries” and “Significant ethnicities” are as mentioned in community entries in the Encyclopedia of Chicago, approximately in 1930. 24.9% of the City of Chicago was foreign born in 1930. 6.9% of the city’s population was African-American.

Source: Keating, *Chicagoland*, p. 73; Chicago Encyclopedia, Appendix

Who were the people who came to these new communities? In relatively short order, an industrial labor force was assembled from many parts of the world. While some workers came to the region from Western and Northern Europe, Southern and Eastern Europe were especially strong source regions until the disruption of World War I and new immigration restrictions shortly thereafter. At that time, labor recruiters turned to the American South and to Mexico. By 1930, the region had an extraordinary diversity of cultures.

In every one of the industrial origin communities, foreign born population exceeded the national average of 11.6%. A number of them had significantly higher concentrations than the City of Chicago's 24.9%.

In 1930, very strong ethnic pockets of one community or another existed across the region. Strong attach-

ments to nationally-based churches, schools, social halls, savings societies, and taverns fostered highly local—even isolated—place identification. There were especially strong concentrations of people from Armenia, Bohemia, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Sweden in the various communities across the region.

Mexican *colonias* had become established in the steelmaking communities of South Chicago, South Deering, and Gary. Chicago's oldest Hispanic neighborhood had only recently developed in what Historian Michael Innis-Jimenez called the "Steel Barrio" of South Chicago when Mexican immigrants came to work at South Works in 1919. By 1924, the oldest Mexican church in Chicago, Our Lady of Guadalupe, was founded.³⁴



Churches in the Calumet region typically reflected the ethnic makeup of the surrounding area, with single congregations often being composed primarily of a single ethnic group that gathered at church for worship, social interaction, and civic causes. With significant neighborhood demographic changes in recent decades, large Roman Catholic parishes, like those of the Cathedral of the Holy Angels in Gary (bottom right) and St. Michael's in the South Chicago neighborhood (top center), have welcomed more ethnically and racially diverse congregations. Our Lady of Guadalupe (top left), the oldest Mexican American Catholic Parish in Chicago, continues to have a strong Mexican identity, but, as the National Shrine of St. Jude, it welcomes Catholics from across the country for worship. Some churches continue to reflect strong ethnic identity, but in new locations. St. Simeon Mirotocivi (bottom left) was built in 1980, to serve an expanding Serbian population on Chicago's East Side, while the former Serbian St. Archangel Michael (top right) in South Chicago is now home to the Ethiopian Orthodox Church of Madhame-Amem.

At a time when the formation of Chicago's Black Belt was in full swing in the Bronzeville area, only a few places in the Calumet region attracted a significant portion of African-Americans. Only Gary and Phoenix, Illinois contained a larger concentration than the City of Chicago's 6.9%.

How to adequately house this burgeoning population of workers and their families and to build up a satisfying urban infrastructure was a question that occasionally drew nationally significant answers. Landmark planned communities include Solon Beman's Pullman, Charles van Doren Shaw's Marktown, and East Chicago's Sunnyside community. When Gary was developed in 1906, it represented an extraordinary opportunity to lay out an industrial development and a related town on modern planning principles. But many contemporary observers felt that U.S. Steel missed the chance to make an urban planning mark. As Graham Taylor wrote, "While it may fall short in its community features, there are those who see in it an extraordinary degree of industrial strategy." Industrial priorities included monopolizing the lakefront for industrial use, building an infrastructure-rich enclave for executives, and leaving much of the low-income housing provision for immigrant and African American labor deliberately to the margins. South of the Wabash tracks, "The Patch" had no paved roads, water, or sewer and quickly became a slum. In the words of historian James Lane, "because of U.S. Steel's limited concept of town planning, two strikingly different Garys emerged: one neat and scenic, the other chaotic and squalid."

Some housing in the region was innovative, such as the concrete Edison Concept Houses in Gary and Frank Lloyd Wright's Foster House and Stable in the Stewart Ridge community of Chicago. But more often than not housing was built through the private market with a growing mixture of vernacular styles and sizes. In the first decades of industrialization, residential communities developed near the factory gates – including in Pullman and Marktown. After electric streetcars became common in the 1890s, those who could afford it tended to move away from the smoke, sound, and smell of the factory. In the South Chicago area, for example, the neighborhood of the "Bush" was most beset by noise and smoke from the nearby South Works; those who could afford to migrated to the East Side, long "considered a suburb" of South Chicago. The Woodmar subdivision of Hammond allowed residents to move "out of the smoke zone and into the ozone."³⁵

Streets along which the streetcars ran were lined with shops, offices, and public buildings. Notable among them were Commercial in South Chicago, Hohman in Hammond, and Broadway in Gary. Automobiles



Top: George Pullman was both the developer and the landlord in Pullman, providing sturdily-built rowhouses such as these. When U.S. Steel founded Gary, Indiana, in 1906, the company tried to stay out of the real estate development and rental businesses, having learned that Pullman-style paternalism can breed resentment on the part of employees. Bottom: The "Edison Concept" Polk Street Terrace homes were built and initially managed as rentals by the Gary Land Company, a subsidiary of U.S. Steel, to provide quality affordable housing to incoming skilled workers from other U.S. Steel facilities.

became relatively common in the Calumet district after about 1920, and more widespread after World War II. Of course they spawned "roadside America" landscapes common elsewhere in the United States, and not particularly unique to the Calumet. What it did increasingly signal, however, was the possibility to make a move even further from the factory gates and beyond the reach of the streetcars. Factory gates themselves needed to include extensive areas of parking for commuting workers.

Moving away became one response to racial issues. Struggles erupted over schooling, housing, and politics that had national resonance. In an era when post-World War II African American migration continued to climb, already limited housing options were further closed off through discriminatory real estate and lending practices, violence, and legally enforced segregation through restrictive covenants. African-American settlement in the region was typically confined to discrete districts like mid-town Gary, the “Millgate” in South Chicago, or the pioneering “All-Negro Town” of Robbins, Illinois. In 1917, to answer the housing demand by a growing population of African Americans in Gary, U.S. Steel constructed an entire segregated district—the “Steel Mill Quarter.” In 1945, the historic but isolated Altgeld Gardens housing project was built in Chicago to house returning African American veterans. Conflict in Chicago’s steelmaking Trumbull Park neighborhood emerged in 1953 when Black families attempted to move into public housing. This and other hostile reactions to an integrated racial pattern of public housing provision triggered a response by city authorities that, according to Arnold Hirsch, led to “making the second ghetto.” Richard Hatcher’s election as the first African American Mayor in America in Gary in 1967 sped these processes of white flight and the creation of a “dual metropolis” that were already underway. The duality settled into place just as the boom in steel industry employment was coming to end.



Some places of great historical significance no longer exist, but continue to be important to locals’ sense of place and community pride. One such place was the Robbins Airstrip; founded, owned, and operated by African American aviators including Bessie Coleman and John C. Robinson (on the right). It housed an aviation school for African Americans that ultimately provided instructors and a model for the training of the Tuskegee Airmen. The airstrip was destroyed by a tornado in 1933.

Labor Takes a Stand

By 1920 one out of five manufacturing workers in the Chicago metropolitan area worked in the area’s leading “Iron and Steel Products” employment group, most of it concentrated in Calumet. For labor as well as capital, the Calumet region was defined by its heavy industry.

Workers’ struggles for better conditions, wages, and rights captured national attention in the Pullman strike of 1893. The strike was triggered when, during the middle of an economic downturn, Pullman cut wages but not rents in the homes in the company town. Eugene Debs and the American Railway Union took the lead in representing the workers and settled on the tactic of refusing to handle trains that carried Pullman-operated cars. Within days this had the effect of stymieing the nation’s rail system. A few days after the strike began, Debs held a major meeting in Blue Island, site of the Rock Island railyard, to try to win support for the strike from rail workers there. Some violence ensued. Days later, when President Cleveland mobilized troops to ensure trains would move again, they were sent to rail junctions like Blue



Workers’ rights to protest, assemble, strike, and bargain were won at great cost, including the 1937 Memorial Day Massacre in Chicago.

Island and Hammond. After the strike ended, Congress established Labor Day, a significant marker on the national path toward better working conditions and living standards for all Americans. As President Obama noted when announcing the creation of the National Monument in 2015, “this site is at the heart of what would become America’s Labor Movement...”

That path had many turns and switchbacks. In 1937, workers at Republic Steel joined a mass strike of 85,000 workers from other plants as part of an organizing effort by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Met by 200 Chicago policemen at a Memorial Day demonstration, ten workers were shot dead by the police. The Steelworkers Organizing Committee won recognition from U.S. Steel in 1937, and by 1942 SWOC had become the United Steelworkers International Union of America.

The effort to widen the path to be inclusive of all workers is memorialized at the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum. Randolph’s organization of the nation’s first African American union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, can be seen as an innovation in American history on par with the entrepreneurialism of the man who built the Pullman Company. It also points again to the steely mesh of interconnection between the region’s economy and its railroads, and the far-reaching effects it had on everyday American life.

Resilient Nature, Resilient People

The patchwork industrial development of the Calumet region did not create wall to wall industry. Some land was held by industry for its future use; other areas were platted for residences but were never built up; and other land was eyed for future development but time passed before action could be taken. The effect was that amidst the scenes of what David Nye has called the American “technological sublime,” “nature” persisted. Where it did, it helped to create the extraordinary juxtaposition of industry and ecology that characterizes the region today, especially in the wetlands and the dunes.

Remnant wetlands and natural areas. Wetlands had a chance to survive if they were located at some remove from the main watercourses and from the major rail junctions. Even here, however, “survival” might just be a phase in a cycle of land acquisition, subdivision, construction, abandonment, and/or neglect. Indian Ridge Marsh at 122nd Street and Torrence Avenue in Chicago – a haven for marsh birds—was a platted subdivision for most of the twentieth century that



Marian Byrnes, not wanting to see more natural space swapped out for pollution sources in her southeast Chicago neighborhood of South Deering, in the late 1970s started a successful movement to save Van Vliissingen Prairie from being converted into a bus barn. The prairie was renamed the Marian Byrnes Natural Area in recognition of her years of effort to save open space and reduce pollution in the Calumet region.

was never built out. Street grades, never lined with structures, cut across the dune and swale topography of the Shirley Heinze Land Trust’s Ivanhoe South Preserve in Gary, a story repeated at a number of ecological restoration sites. Where sewer systems were installed in the dune and swale landscape, the ridges were drained of moisture and scrub oaks shriveled in response. Van Vliissingen Prairie was owned by the Norfolk Southern Railroad adjacent to its 103rd Street intermodal yard. After World War II era industrial structures on the prairie were developed, the railroad considered expanding the yard onto the site for decades. Hegewisch Marsh’s one hundred acres were about half covered over with railroad tracks and structures of the nearby steel supply warehouse operation. When they were removed, the Marsh slowly recovered. Wolf Lake and Lake Calumet, were simply too big to be filled entirely, though they are far smaller now than they were one hundred years ago.³⁶

The result of being passed by for real estate development was to create islands of water or patches of relatively undisturbed vegetation in a sea of dry land and urbanization. For some the interest was in the remaining waterfowl—hunting or “sportsmen’s” clubs sprouted at especially rich locations. Others preferred to shoot the birds with spotting scopes or cameras, and a birding avocation took flight through the twentieth century. For area children, the wetlands could be places to hunt frogs and to escape the neighborhood. Some corners of the region could be used for partying or for drag racing.



Heritage comes alive in a conservation event to search for a rare plant.

Scientists were aware of the riches of these places. After the founding of the University of Chicago a few miles to the north in 1892, the area attracted botanizing faculty and graduate students. Cowles' student Norma Pfeiffer collected the endemic plant called *Thismia americana* in the shadow of a metallurgical coking facility in 1911. The plant was last seen in 1916.

The dunes region. Of course Cowles and his colleagues were also aware of the uniqueness of the dunes, which after the establishment of Gary seemed to be the next lakefront property in line for industrialization. In 1916, Cowles' colleague Rollin D. Salisbury noted,

*The dunes are going and more are to go. I do not think we should stop it altogether, because the head of Lake Michigan is so advantageously situated for industrial development that industries must develop there...[But] it seems to me...that we of this city shall be negligent – it appears to me almost criminally negligent – with reference to future generations, if we do not do all that we can to secure the permanent preservation of a generous and well-selected tract, for the use of ourselves, and of the generations to come.*³⁷

Indeed 1916 was the year when agitation for a Dunes National Park to be a part of the new National Park Service reached its peak. The park's strongest political constituency was Chicago-based, centered on the Prairie Club (founded in 1908) whose members included Cowles, Carl Sandburg, Jane Addams, and landscape architect Jens Jensen. The effort enjoyed strong endorsement by NPS Superintendent Stephen Mather and 42 people testified strongly in favor at hearings held in Chicago that year. The war intervened, but by 1926 the Indiana Dunes State Park had been created.

But the challenge posed to natural areas by industrialization had another chapter. It was a story shot through with the themes we've already discussed: the steel industry's desires for sprawling lakeside operations (Bethlehem Steel, in this case); economic development interests re-making hydrology (The Port of Indiana, in this case); removal of dune sand during construction; and a strong citizen reaction, led by Dorothy Buell of Save the Dunes Council. The result was also characteristic of the Calumet: a creative



A look back—artistically and theatrically—drives forward recreation and action at the Dunes.

compromise led by Illinois Senator Paul Douglas that in 1966 resulted in the creation of the Port of Indiana, the country's first National Lakeshore, and its last integrated steelworks, dividing the Park in two.

At its industrial peak, the Calumet region muscled its way into the senses. In 1969, Mayer and Wade wrote:

Huge blast furnaces and rolling mills, acres of stockpiled ore, coal, and stone, towering grain elevators, the exposed tubing of chemical and paint works, large gantry cranes hovering over wharves and ships, and mile upon mile of drab, almost sullen buildings, crowded in around the water. Fire and smoke charged into the sky as a constant reminder to the world of Chicago's brute industrial strength. Most people were appalled by the dirt, pollution, and ugliness of the scene, but to some there was an elemental beauty to the rough shapes and raw power embodied in this steaming jungle of steel and brick and concrete.

The elemental beauty changed again when the fires went out. By the turn of the 21st century, regional narratives spoke of "Rusted Dreams", of a "Drosscape", and of what anthropologist Christine Walley called "Exit Zero", a place filled with brownfields and industrial relics, and, most importantly, dislocated people and communities. How would people respond?³⁸

"Fire and smoke charged into the sky..."

"Soot in the air meant food on the table."



The "technological sublime" in East Chicago harbor.

PART THREE

"Exit Zero," or "On the Path to Sustainability"

A textbook landscape with a textbook economic history, including its booms and its busts, the Calumet region now finds itself at the center of efforts to write the new text on the next American city. New paths to sustainability and land conservation in an urban context are being marked in the region. The text draws on the wellsprings of heritage and innovation every step of the way, from brownfield redevelopment to education and stewardship to recreation to creative partnerships focused on sustainable development.

Since 1980, the region's economy has changed markedly, as large-scale facilities have closed or shed jobs, all too frequently leaving joblessness and contaminated brownfields in their wake. How to build a productive job-providing regional economy is a major Calumet issue. This fate befell other places in the American Manufacturing Belt, and, indeed, what happened to all of them is one of the most significant national stories of the past four decades. While major investments in traditional Calumet industries such as oil, steel, and automobiles continue, the region is also home to intriguing "creative placemaking"



From top: A float from the annual Popcorn Festival rolls past local shops in Valparaiso; South Chicago retains its neighborhood character.

efforts, replete with vibrant main streets, arts and entertainment districts, and tourism-related developments that capitalize on the unparalleled crossroads character of the region and its cultural and natural assets. A major impetus for the National Heritage Area effort in the Calumet area is to turn the regional narrative from one of loss and destruction, to one that builds on assets of natural and cultural heritage. That sense is taking hold, another turn in the changing historical perception of the value of this area.



Scholars have studied the Calumet region through a lens of resilience. This book display features works by authors and presenters at the 2013 Calumet Heritage Conference held in Pullman.

Deindustrialization

In the 1970s, the Calumet region was still the quintessential “blue-collar community” and the “land of the millrats.”³⁹ But by the first part of the twenty-first century, far more people worked in white-collar occupations than blue-collar.

The reasons for industrial decline are many. Increased global competition, corporate failure to keep technological pace, difficult choices made by unions, changing structure of demand, and increased energy costs have all been mentioned prominently in the discussion of the industrial decline of the Calumet region. With so many of its eggs in the railroad-era industrial basket—in classification yards and shops, in railcar manufacture, in making steel for rails – the region suffered when the nation’s economy shifted away from rail to highway transportation.

The outcome was a greatly weakened industrial sector and widespread job loss. Table 3 shows some of the large industrial facilities that closed in the period after 1970. Other firms radically downsized their employment as they modernized their facilities.

Sudden and severe loss of employment caused social dislocation, population loss, economic decline, and the creation of brownfields. Patterns of job loss varied across the region, although unemployment rates tended to soar above statewide averages. Twenty-thousand jobs were lost in primary metals manufacture in Chicago alone in the decade of the 1980s. Losses continued through the 1990s, and across the entire region, the number of people holding manufacturing jobs declined 22% from 1990 to 2000.⁴⁰

TABLE 3: Selected Closures Of Large Industrial Facilities

Year Closed	Company	Location	Peak Jobs	Other Names
1970	Youngstown Sheet & Tube	South Chicago	1,000	Iroquois Steel; Later LTV
1975s	GATX	East Chicago	3,000	General American Tank Car Corporation
1980	Wisconsin Steel	South Deering	4,000	
1992	South Works (U.S. Steel)	Pullman; Hammond; Michigan City	20,000	North Chicago Rolling Mills, Illinois Steel, Carnegie Steel
1990s	Valley Mould & Iron	East Side	100s	
1999	Republic Steel	East Side	6,335	Later LTV
2001	Acme Steel	South Deering	3,500	Byproducts Coke; Federal Furnace

Note: “Company” is the name most commonly used with this facility.; “Other names” refer to antecedent or successor names. “Peak Jobs” is approximate based on various sources; peak years vary with the firm.

Source: *Chicago Encyclopedia*



After Acme steel closed in 2001, steel heritage stakeholders mounted an effort to preserve the facility for a museum and the artifacts and printed materials it contained. Museum plans were not realized, but many items were rescued. Prints, photographs, signs, clothing, and other materials create a glimpse into a “day in the life” of Acme. Steelworker Roy Collins designed and fabricated a sheet steel model of the facility that welcomed visitors to the coke plant. Blueprints in the collection depict the blast furnace bell also currently on site in storage at Pullman.

While 16,000 people who lived on the southeast side of Chicago worked in manufacturing in 1990, by the year 2000 that number had dropped to 9,000. For a “blue collar” community, it is especially telling that this figure accounts for only 5.5% of the employment by industry for regional residents. The number of people employed in manufacturing increased in only five of the sixty-five census tracts in this corner of Chicago.⁴¹

Many people chose to leave the region to find other opportunities. While the overall Calumet region has gained population since 1990, that growth has been concentrated in previous open lands on the suburban margins of Indiana. Lakefront urban core cities all lost population during the ‘90s, including a 12% loss in the city of Gary and 27% drop in the neighborhood across the street from South Works. East Chicago was reduced to 56% of its 1960 population size. (Gary is 58%; Whiting is 63%; and Hammond, 74%).

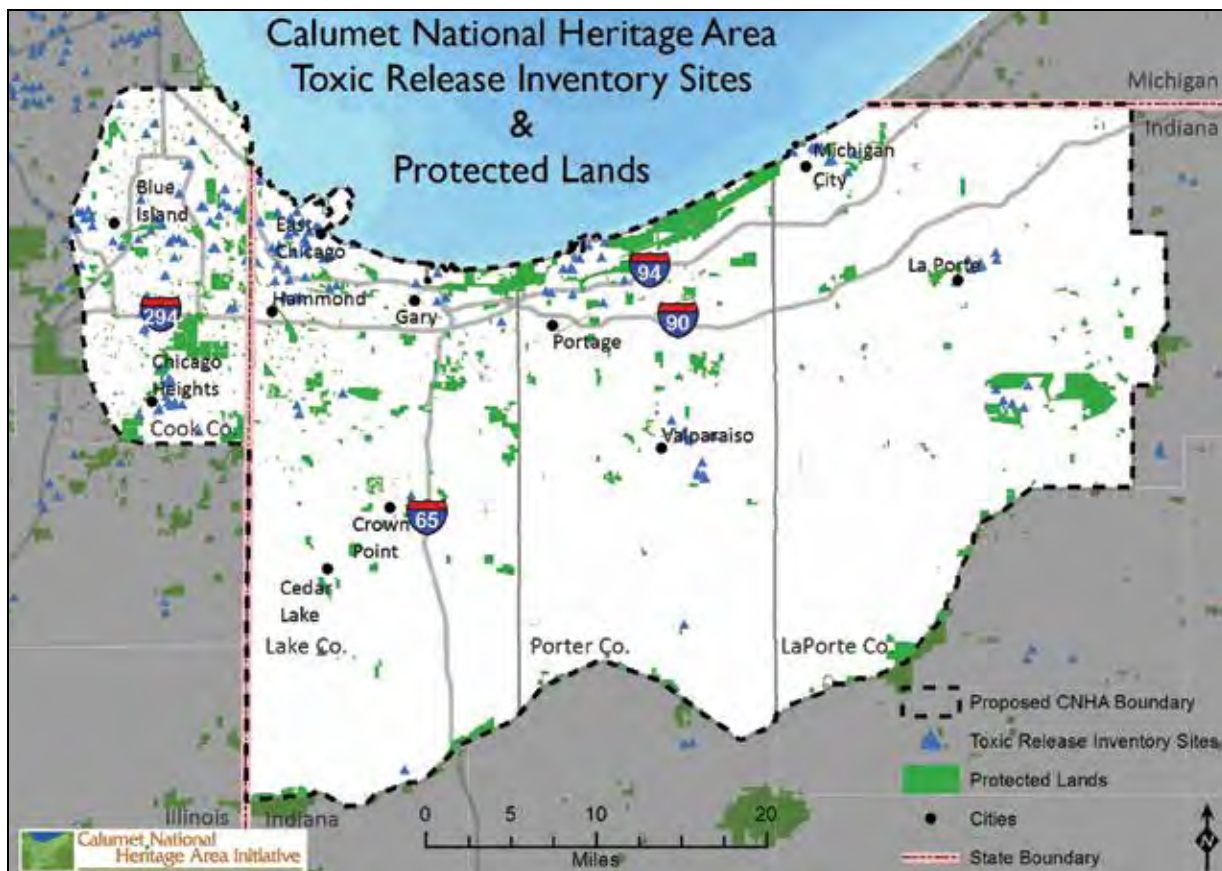
Job loss and population decline have had other strong effects. Many people—traumatized by job loss; wracked by community change; frustrated by uncertain prospects—are left holding what David Bensman and Roberta Lynch call “rusted dreams.” Social service providers tried to keep pace with increased instances of substance abuse, family difficulties, and mental illness. Housing vacancies and abandonments have rippled through communities. Once vibrant commercial districts, already competing with newly constructed regional malls such as River Oaks and Southlake, downsized and long iconic businesses closed or moved onward to suburbia. Some areas are distinctly derelict.

The decline in industrial activity had another effect: it lowered traffic on the ports and railroads and helped to create large areas of dormant dockside facilities. Traffic along the river once served a number of fabricators; today an increasing amount of land is given over to the far less labor intensive bulk storage and transshipment industry.⁴²

Deindustrialization, and the white flight that preceded and accompanied it, has had a profound effect in fostering a “dual metropolis”: large areas of the historic core industrial cities occupied mostly by people of color surrounded by generally more affluent and whiter suburbs. The retail core and service sector employment in northwest Indiana has migrated southward to places like Merrillville, Munster, and Hobart. Relocated ethnic outposts have developed, with new churches and community centers being constructed far from their former sites in the core. Many employees at lakefront industries now live in these outer locations. This has served to extend the boundaries of the functionally connected region.

A Rustbelt Landscape: Challenges and Responses

The Calumet region is an instance of what Alan Berger called a “drosscape,” a waste landscape resulting from deindustrialization and suburbanization. It is replete with ongoing releases to air, land, and water; brownfields; superfund sites; and more than its fair share of sanitary landfills. Rising from the drosscape, however, are nationally significant stories of resistance and recovery.



Industry and nature exist side-by-side in the Calumet region. Operating industries of a certain size are required to report annual releases of major chemical substances to air, water, land, and landfill. Such facilities exist in close proximity to natural areas.

The term is pejorative, but it expresses a nationally significant reality as one outcome from the “Steel-Rail” period of American development. It is important to come to terms with this aspect of the “Rustbelt” and to state with conviction that this aspect of American history cannot be forgotten. At the same time, it is important to know this landscape because the next phase for regions like this are now underway. For us to understand transformation, it is important to know what has been transformed. Yesterday’s challenges may again become tomorrow’s assets.

- One key element of the drosscape is continuing pollution-generating economic activity. Numerous industrial and commercial facilities still operate productively in the Calumet region, which is a landscape that fills not only the eyes but also the ears and nose. Byproducts of their activity are the wastes emitted to air, water, soil, or groundwater. Health issues of particular importance to residents include lead poisoning, asthma, skin rashes, and pesticide poisoning. Since 1986, companies need to report their releases from a list of 755 chemicals to the Toxic Release Inventory. The map of hazardous substance-producing or using facilities that appear in this annual report neatly describes the industrial core of the Calumet region.

- The legacy of polluting industries is registered in the region’s large number of brownfield sites and polluted waters. Brownfields occur especially when unknown levels of contamination from prior activity deter reinvestment and reuse, especially when suburban “greenfields” appear to be less expensive, more extensive, and better connected to the free-way grid than railroad-oriented central city industrial properties. The most significant brownfield sites are those Superfund sites where the known contaminants must undergo costly cleanup. By one count there are more than twenty-five past and present seriously contaminated sites.⁴³ And site-by-site cleanup may still not capture the long-term effects of windblown pollutants across vast territories. East Chicago’s West Calumet neighborhood is now facing housing displacement and disruptive soil cleanup of pollutants emitted by the now closed and cleaned up USS Lead Smelter when it was still operating decades ago.
- The aquatic equivalent to brownfields are contaminated streams. The Grand Calumet River is nationally significant in being the only one of 43 EPA designated “Areas of Concern” that fails every one of the criteria “beneficial use impairments.”



On top of a slag field, the Chicago Park District has created the Big Marsh Bike Park for multiple forms of off-road bicycling. The District hopes participation in “eco-recreation” will make the area a destination for cyclists and garner support for continued restoration of the wetland habitats that surround Lake Calumet.

- While Chicago area wastes have long ended up in the Calumet region, this trend increased rapidly in the past thirty years with the development of numerous sanitary landfills. Some landfills present serious issues of leaching, slope instability, and odor.

Significantly, and while not minimizing the challenge the region faces to make its lands and waters safe for people and for nature, there is positive movement to remove each one of these drosscape components in a way that points a way forward for the nation. For example:

- Overall toxic releases are down across the region since 1986. At the site of one of the largest emitters, and in response to a consent decree with the EPA for Clean Air Act violations, the BP Refinery in Whiting has established a fence line system of air monitors and make the data collected available to the public.
- Fresh methods to tackle brownfields have been devised. The world’s largest urban solar array now covers a former brownfield site in the West Pullman neighborhood of Chicago, which has had an active brownfield recovery program dating back to its pathbreaking Brownfields Forum in 1995. The forum prompted new state laws that limit the liability of current landowners and that provide specific guidelines as to “how clean is clean.” This “tiered approach to cleanup objectives” takes specific account of the future land use of the site: if it is to be industrial in the future, cleanup objectives are a little more lenient than if the future use is to be residential. New ways to restore brownfields have been studied, such as “mining” remnant iron from the slag that covers so much of the region or using trees to take heavy metals into their vascular systems and then capturing the residue.⁴⁴ Increasing interest

in brownfield redevelopment signals a “paradigm shift” in urban land use planning: yesterday’s liabilities are today’s opportunities.⁴⁵

- Two of the beneficial use impairments have now been de-listed from the Grand Calumet River. Toxics in the river itself have been either capped or removed, and sixty-five acres of restored open space in the floodplain have been created.
- Gas recovery and recreational development characterize several sanitary landfill sites.

Berger thinks that “drosscapes have few stakeholders, caretakers, guardians, or spokespersons.”⁴⁶ But this is not the case in the Calumet region. A number of the achievements listed above could not have happened without strong action by environmental advocates, such as the Alliance for the Great Lakes, Chicago Legal Clinic, Grand Calumet Task Force, Hoosier Environmental Council, and national organizations like the Sierra Club and National Resources Defense Council.



The environmental justice movement, which had one of its national points of origin in Chicago’s Calumet region, continues to be a local force well into the new millennium. Above, Cheryl Johnson, of People for Community Recovery (PCR), continues the pioneering work of her mother Hazel Johnson, here speaking out against the development of a new coal to gas plant on Chicago’s Southeast Side. The project was ultimately cancelled. Below, the sign outside a United Methodist youth center, located in a former United Steelworkers Hall, advertises a forum on Environmental Justice. It brought together groups like PCR and Southeast Environmental Task Force, a coalition that successfully pressured the city to tighten regulations on the bulk storage of petcoke along the banks of the Calumet River.

Strong locally-based organizations advanced a pioneering interest in environmental justice. The modern struggle for environmental justice in the Calumet area has national implication, and not only because President Barack Obama began his political career working on environmental issues requiring citizen action in the Calumet region. He worked with people like Hazel Johnson and her daughter Cheryl, who articulated a notion of environmental justice especially relevant to low-income residents of places like the Calumet. Mrs. Johnson, the founder and president of People for Community Recovery (PCR), a community-based environmental organization located at the Chicago Housing Authority's Altgeld-Murray Homes, referred to Altgeld's regional position, surrounded by landfills, sewage treatment plants, and active industry, as being at the hole of a "toxic doughnut." PCR, in league with partners like the Hegewisch-based Southeast Environmental Task Force is part of a vigorous environmental movement that is alive and well in the region. It can count some important victories: Waste Management was forced to close a non-compliant hazardous waste incinerator; large polluting companies that were forced to pay millions of dollars in fines now willingly enter into Good Neighbor Dialogues that focus on pollution prevention; and helping the city to hold the line on new landfill construction for more than twenty-five years. The Task Force now has a bi-state board and has recently taken up the struggle against the storage of large piles of fine particulate petcoke from the BP Whiting refinery at transfer terminals along the Calumet River.

Given the economic and environmental challenges of the past thirty years, it is tempting to say that a drosscape has indeed been created. In that case, the only solution to it would be to take drastic action through a major public works project. But key events in the region's history surrounding just such a proposal would show that even when faced with major and continuing challenges, a number of actors were prepared to focus on the region's assets, and build multiple innovative pathways to sustainability in the Calumet region.

Resilience and Innovation: Pathways to Sustainability in the Calumet Region

An airport that didn't fly and the idea for a park

In 1990, Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago stunned the region with his announcement that the city would pursue construction of a Lake Calumet International Airport, which would grow to the size and activity of O'Hare.⁴⁷ The proposal was part of ongoing Chicago



The "20+ Years Later" event explored and celebrated the way that standing up to and defeating the proposal for a Lake Calumet Airport emboldened and expanded community activism on Chicago's Southeast Side, adding civic capacity that persists today, particularly in advocacy for residents' health, ecological stewardship, and green economic development.

regional questions of whether, how, and where to build a "third airport." Other candidate sites included the existing Gary International Airport, which had been a major initiative of Richard Hatcher, and various sites in the southern Chicago suburbs. Daley's ambitious plan entailed lowering landfills, re-routing the Calumet River, moving 40,000 people, and creating a border that would lap into Indiana.

In making the airport proposal, the City linked an effort to stimulate local economic development in an era of deindustrialization with a desire to resolve several major environmental issues. In opposing the airport proposal, environmental and economic development advocates found common cause, forming alternate scenarios for development based in the region's considerable assets. In 1992, the City withdrew its proposal, choosing instead to align its efforts with Gary to create the Gary/Chicago International Airport. By this time, the ground had been laid on the city's southeast side for a flurry of activity to re-envision the Calumet as a region for both people and nature.

One such vision came from Michigan City native, geographer, and birder Jim Landing, whose Lake Calumet Study Committee began to advocate for some sort of protection for the lake and adjoining marshes and their astonishing bird diversity. By 1995, this effort developed into a call for a "Calumet Ecological Park" and the Calumet Ecological Park Association was created to advocate for it. In 1998, the National Park Service conducted a Special Resource Study that considered such a designation, ultimately pointing out that its National Heritage designation would be a promising best avenue to pursue. As a result, the Calumet Heritage Partnership was formed, and a first annual Calumet Heritage Conference held in Whiting in 1999.

Meanwhile, the City of Chicago was re-framing its post-airport approach to the region. Already committed to a moratorium on future landfill expansion since 1989, and energized by a newer “greener” vision that included running a large, multi-stakeholder Brownfield Forum in 1995, the city deployed resources and energy to the issues of the region under its Calumet Initiative. Moving in concert with a State of Illinois Lake Calumet Ecosystem Partnership, created in 1999, the City began to take stock of the hydrology of the land it owned, to consider further purchase for conservation, to bring together stakeholders around a cluster of toxic landfills, and to begin to consider future land uses devoted to recreation, education, and conservation.

By June 2, 2000, Mayor Daley and Governor George Ryan announced a comprehensive rehabilitation plan for the Calumet regional environment, including a Calumet Land Use Plan, an ecosystem management plan, purchase and rehabilitation of two key marshes, and construction of a showcase Environmental Center in one of them. When the Mayor’s mind changed it signaled a new era for conservation in the Chicago portions of the region.



In May of 2015, 188 stakeholders from the bi-state Calumet region gathered at the South Shore Cultural Center in Chicago for the *Calumet Summit: Advancing Our Shared Agenda*. Creating a Calumet National Heritage Area was a long term goal and provided an overarching framework for the presentations and discussions.

A series of regional summits, convened first in 2001 by the City of Chicago in Chicago to gather and discuss the social, environmental, and economic research of its new regional focus area, gradually evolved in location, scope, and purpose. In 2006, acknowledging that the issues it wanted to address were bi-state in nature, the City’s Research Summit was held in Hammond, Indiana. By 2010, acknowledging the importance of taking action on what was learned, the word “research” was dropped from the title of “Calumet Summit: A Call

to Connect.” In 2013, a multiple set of partners was ready to convene the gathering, and the Calumet Stewardship Initiative formally became the event’s sponsor. The summit was held in Gary’s Marquette Park as “Calumet Summit: Connecting for Action.” CSI sponsored again – back in the city of Chicago – in 2015 to “Advance our Shared Agenda.” More than 175 attendees from the bi-state region attended each of these last three Summits, and by the third, a regional approach had been firmly established.

Building cultures of conservation and placemaking

“Have you always enjoyed musty, old things?” two leaders of the Calumet Heritage Partnership were asked by the moderator of a public affairs show. Here lies one popular view, that heritage is ancient and irrelevant. But environmental and economic development professionals increasingly express the desire to engage communities, to foreground regional assets, and to build regional identity by connecting to living regional heritage.



Residents in communities across the bi-state region beautify public and private spaces by making things grow.

In 2001, The Field Museum worked with communities on either side of the state line to map local assets, identify key leaders, and discern the power of local networks. The Museum's findings were gathered into a website called *Journey Through Calumet*. The Museum's work revealed a region replete with activity, leaders, and important places, signs of the area's grass-roots strength even in the midst of deindustrialization.

Local festivals and traditions strongly express local love of place. A number of traditions, festivals, foods, music, and literature make the region and its heritage come alive. The East Side of Chicago's commemoration of the Memorial Day Massacre and Labor Day events at the Pullman Administration/Factory building are rooted in a living understanding of the region's labor history. Other events are rooted in national churches, such as Southeast Chicago's AnnunciataFest. Whiting's Pierogi Fest has become a powerfully attractive celebratory event of the town's Slavic heritage. Valparaiso's Popcorn Festival honors local resident Orville Redenbacher. The city's Central Park Plaza enhances the festival and was named a Great Public Space by the American Planning Association in 2016.

A network of local museums and archives gathers the many aspects of family and associational life in communities. The Southeast Chicago Historical Museum crams displays, dioramas, posters, and archives into a room at the Calumet Park fieldhouse. The Suzanne K. Long Local History Room at the Hammond Public Library, Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University Northwest, South Suburban Genealogical Society, Westchester Historical Society (Chesterton), Porter County Museum, and Pullman State Historic Site have gathered documents and photographs that tell the regional story at the local scale.

Using public art to interpret and enliven the landscape is becoming a regional specialty. Artist and former steelworker Roman Villarreal has declared that "art is the new steel." His work is part of a vigorous public art movement that includes his sculpture at "Steelworkers Park", on the site of South Works. A series of posters based on a South Shore railroad poster from the 1920s but using new travel destinations explicitly ties a regional look to tourism. Retrospective shows of the work of Frank Dudley have highlighted again the



The Suzanne G. Long Local History Room in the Hammond Public Library is one of a collection of regional centers where local heritage can be displayed, researched, and discussed.



Patrons of the South Shore Line were enticed to spend time in the region both as a place to play and a landscape to behold. The poster design has been picked up recently in a new series.

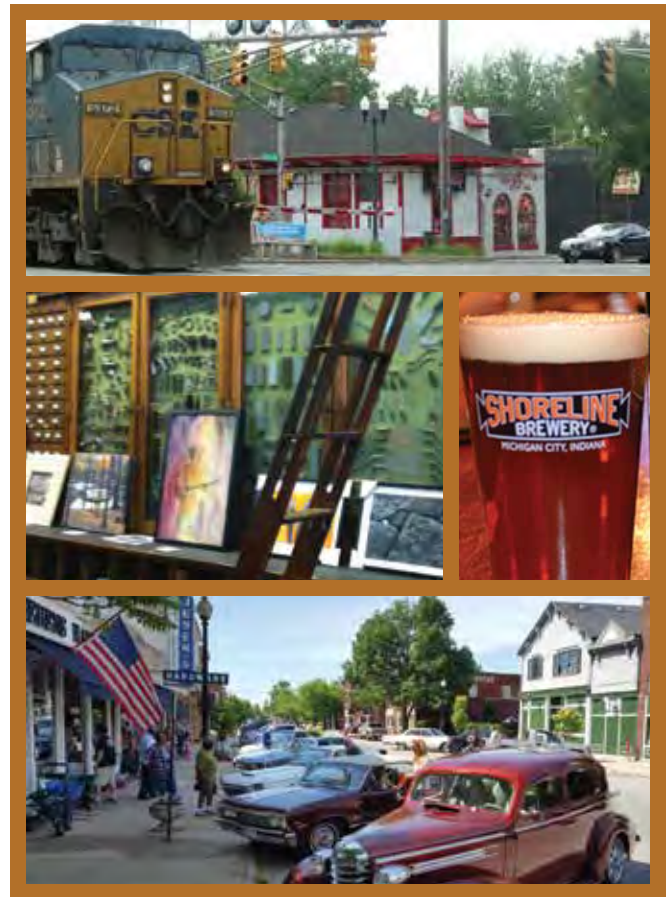
inspiration provided by the dunes. Art has been used to convene and critique, as in a new showing of Terry Evans' photographs of petcoke piles in Southeast Chicago and Thomas Frank's work critiquing carbon-emitting industry in East Chicago.

The region's active recreation possibilities have expanded significantly since the 1998 resource study. The region's legacy rail network has served as a framework for the extensive and award-winning "greenways and blueways" program developed by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. In Illinois, an extensive trail network is also being developed. An especially important path is the Calumet-Sag Trail, which will ultimately connect the Indiana trail network in the east with the Illinois and Michigan Canal area to the west. Throughout the network, these paths connect sites of local significance with strong potential for interpretation. Works of public art have become bicycle destinations in their own right.

Regional resources remain that tell the stories of past industrial endeavor, most notably in the Administration/Clock Tower building at the Pullman National Monument. The Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois named the remnant Acme Steel structures to be one of the "ten most endangered structures" in Illinois and provided seed money for an effort to preserve them. The largest contribution came from the U.S. Steel Local. But the structures are mostly demolished, though a vigorous effort ensued to preserve materials, photos, documents, and key artifacts.

The region's biodiversity and unique landscape is a major element of its heritage. Scholars and dunes advocates know this, but building a broad cultural base where people appreciate and benefit from these assets has led to creative solutions. With the idea that basic place literacy begins in childhood, regional leaders like the Dunes Learning Center, Shirley Heinze Land Trust, and The Field Museum have helped bring together a suite of programs designed to move children into the outdoors. In addition to the multiple benefits that kids receive, the concept is that children will become the next generation of conservation leaders, and, perhaps, come to work alongside the many "stewards" who volunteer as part of the vigorous ecological restoration programs happening on some of the region's 42,000 acres of natural areas.

These initiatives have been pulled together into the multi-stakeholder Calumet Stewardship Initiative (CSI), which began simply as a way for key landowners to coordinate volunteer programs. It has since evolved into a 45-member bi-state network that has main user groups in the areas of education, recreation,



Local businesses utilize and celebrate regional heritage. Miller Pizza Station is in an old rail depot along a still busy passenger and freight corridor. Shoreline Brewery is in a 19th century rail warehouse and has a bowtie logo reminiscent of the historic South Shore Line logo. Paul Henry's Gallery shows the art right next to the cases of tools, belts, and fasteners from when it operated as the owner's family's hardware store. Blue Island's Eben's Hardware is still a hardware store dating from the 19th century. Along the historic Dixie Highway, it is at the starting point of the "Drivin' the Dixie" event that attracts many antique car owners.

and ecological stewardship. CSI took on the task of convening bi-state Summits to consider these focus areas and to connect them to other regional issues. In 2015, "heritage" was formally added as a main focus of the Summit. The linkage of "environmental" and "heritage" groups in this way has proven to be tremendously fruitful.

Creative collaborations for sustainable development

The "Steel Rail" period witnessed numerous inter-industry collaborations to build up the region's integrated network of industrial suppliers and markets. Labor eventually developed something of a coordinated response. Now, government, for-profit, non-profit, and grassroots entities have been gathering to collaboratively re-vision the region in light of the changes it has undergone and the realities it faces. And

a sense of the region as a place that has ecological, economic, and cultural integrity, even across a state line, has taken deep root.

Plans. More than twenty plans and visions have been produced for the area since the 1990s. The last five years have marked the release of the first-ever regional comprehensive plans by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, each of them distinguished by a pronounced concern to rebuild historic town centers and to integrate “green infrastructure” across the fabric of the region.

Indiana’s Marquette Plan, launched by Congressman Pete Visclosky, is a sustained effort to envision and create a coastal corridor that still has a place for industry and that embraces community access to the Indiana lakeshore. The 2015 Marquette Plan update incorporates historical and cultural resources and embraces the notion of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

In Illinois, a Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core was declared at the end of 2011 by Governor Patrick Quinn. The Millennium Reserve effort similarly calls out a Calumet National Heritage Area as a priority project with potential to fulfill the effort’s goals of linking community, economic, and environmental sustainability. An advisory committee of foundation, environmental, economic, cultural, and community leaders continued to meet autonomously to advance priority projects even after a change in administration in 2014.

Economy. Regional economic development and industrial collaboratives have embedded sustainability into their thinking. These include the environmental affairs units of the Northwest Indiana Forum and the Chicago-based Calumet Area Industrial Commission. An especially notable example is the Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation, which envisions a brownfield redevelopment project at Lake Riverdale that will combine assets deeply embedded in the region’s heritage: superior logistics with a location between two major railroad yards, an industrial park planned with conservation in mind, green infrastructure connections to adjacent Cook County Forest preserves, and a stormwater plan that acknowledges the need to absorb rainwater in this corner of the Chicago lake plain.

New industries were drawn to the region, not only by the longstanding regional virtues, but also by the chance to make a difference in a landscape where a compelling narrative prevails. Method Soap is two blocks away from the Pullman National Monument and strives for very low impact on the environment in its production process. On the roof is Gotham



When Walmart built in the Pullman area, consistent with their emerging green building practices and with local ordinances, they created stormwater capture capacity on site.

Greens, the largest rooftop greenhouse in the country that supplies organic salad greens to supermarkets across Chicago. Nearby will be a new Whole Foods Warehouse.

Environment. A century of grassroots citizen activism has conserved, protected and restored the biodiversity, native beauty, and recreational quality of the natural environment, making the region a significant place to the American conservation and environmental justice movements.

Ecological restoration, a strong tradition in the Chicago region, has an especially strong hold in the Calumet region. A 2006 report by environmental advocate Lee Botts, sponsored by ten regional agencies, identified 166 restoration sites in Northwest Indiana. Botts said that this represented a complete change from her 1993 report on ecological restoration.⁴⁸ CSI brings together a number of the land-owning agencies and non-profits, including the Cook County Forest Preserves, The Nature Conservancy, The National Park Service, and Shirley Heinze Land Trust.

Land conservation is now moving beyond restoration alone. In 2004, Chicago Wilderness, the multi-stakeholder regional conservation organization, prepared a “green infrastructure vision” as the spatial expression of its biodiversity recovery plan. The key to the vision was to reconnect fragmented natural areas by using river corridors and rights of way. In 2009, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, a longtime supporter of land conservation in the Calumet region, funded a special issue of *Chicago Wilderness* magazine focused on the Calumet region, that told the region’s story to the general public with articles and a map. The map highlighted what could be accomplished at the regional scale, and was published with Chicago Wilderness’s green infrastructure map as a guiding vision.⁴⁹

More tools and multi-stakeholder collaborations were to come. In 2013, Chicago Wilderness released a GIS-based version of its green infrastructure vision, which provided specific areas for de-fragmentation to occur. Millennium Reserve convened five landholding partners (the Chicago Park District, Cook County Forest Preserves, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and The Nature Conservancy) and worked out a “conservation compact” in which the entities would align their conservation targets and cooperate on management. Audubon Chicago Region hired The Wetlands Initiative to study and plan for marshbird restoration in the Calumet marshes, first in Illinois, and then across the state line. And in Indiana, the multi-stakeholder Grand Calumet Area of Concern completed more of its \$675 million restoration of 20 of the 22 miles of the Grand Calumet, including the spectacular DuPont and Seidner restorations involving The Nature Conservancy and Shirley Heinze Land Trust.

A group of conservation partners, including Shirley Heinze Land Trust, Save the Dunes, Northwestern Indiana Planning Commission, The Nature Conservancy, Openlands, The Field Museum, National Parks Conservation Association, and Metropolitan Planning Commission, began to gather in 2014 to consider how to move forward in key geographies to “de-fragment” the lands of the region. Tools could include acquisition, restoration, management, policy, and community engagement. Working with a number of other partners, and building on opportunities that surfaced at the 2015 Summit, the group settled in on four major focus areas, including:

- The East Branch of the Little Calumet corridor
- Hobart Marsh
- Indiana Dunes Ecosystem
- “Heart of Calumet”, including the ridge-and-swale systems of the Tolleston sandplain between the Pullman National Monument and the city of Gary.

The group has made it explicit that, lest its conservation efforts be viewed as a red herring by adjoining communities, it must root its conversations with local communities in their own understanding of community strengths, traditions, and heritage.

Toward “integration.” The energy that propels the many efforts described in this study draws on rich wellsprings of activism and concern that the assets provided by nature and culture be used to fashion a future that is sustainable. The region has entered a historic moment, in that through efforts like the Heritage Area, many voices are now being brought to bear in a coordinated way to reach this end.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership has carefully tended the idea of a National Heritage Area since 1998. With significant support from The Field Museum, CHP has developed a board that is broadly representative of “heritage” interests in the region, including representatives from the history, landmarks, industrial, community development, academia, and arts communities. It has worked by combining its efforts with that of the Calumet Stewardship Initiative. At the same time, it has drawn the heritage conversation into key regional plans and initiatives as it has drawn together the understanding of the region’s national significance, key themes, resources, and boundary that undergirds this study.

Meanwhile, an important regional development to build bi-state capacity to undertake the Heritage Area has unfolded as the Millennium Reserve, with the support of Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner, has moved to become a bi-state non-profit. Through a facilitated process of organization, the new entity, provisionally called the Calumet Collaborative, has drawn together regional leaders from two states. That collaborative and CHP have formally agreed to work together to coordinate the creation and management of a Calumet National Heritage Area, to integrate program elements, and ensure the long-term success of the integrated effort.



Artist Corey Hagelberg’s ironic woodcut, *This Is not a Peace Pipe*, illustrates contrasts central to the Calumet region. The inscription moves from explaining that the Calumet was a reed pipe famously smoked by the Illiniwek and Father Marquette as a universal sign of peace, to noting that the Grand Calumet River now disappears into a pipe in an industrial zone near the site of the historical encounter.

Caption Page 25: Vertical lift bridge marks Calumet Harbor.

Alternatives and Management



When community partners come together to commemorate and celebrate their heritage, there can be many different approaches to interpretation, education, and economic development that honor and build upon a region's stories and its collection of cultural, natural, and historic resources. The priorities of residents and organizations in each region also vary widely. The challenge for developing National Heritage Areas is to find a vision for managing a region's heritage that allows for the partners to participate while corralling these varying interests into a unified, coordinated strategy where the sum is greater than the parts. For this reason, there is no single model or plan for celebrating and managing a region's heritage; rather they are created locally to fit the unique aims, regional visions, and resources of each place.

Regional conversation is inherently built upon the core stories and the concept of a nationally distinctive landscape to enhance regional identity and create a platform for collaboration based on a shared regional vision.

This chapter includes a summary of alternative approaches to meet regional goals, the selection of a preferred alternative, and a concept for how that alternative will be realized.

PART ONE

Management Alternatives

Residents, organizations, and units of government at different levels have re-imagined futures for the Calumet region many times since its initial development. Since the mid-1990s, plans for the future increasingly reflect concepts that build upon the region's natural, cultural, and industrial assets. Those plans, discussed in more detail on the following page, helped lay important groundwork for the current feasibility study and consideration of a National Heritage Area. Regional goals and priorities surfaced through many planning efforts over the years, and through the current feasibility study process were articulated and

connected to the Calumet's shared stories and the heritage resources that express the region's history. Goals and priorities include:

- Foster education and stewardship
- Preserve globally/nationally/regionally significant natural and cultural resources
- Increase visibility and access to the region through branding and wayfinding
- Use heritage as a driver for economic development
- Prioritize bi-state collaboration

One aim of the feasibility study was to consider how National Heritage Area designation would help the Calumet residents care for and build upon the heritage resources in the region and the stories that bind

together people and place. As part of that process, constituents also considered other forms of management and whether or not they might benefit the region. While many were raised, the following alternatives merited the most discussion:

- National Heritage Area Designation—Designation by U.S. Congress, technical assistance from NPS
- Legislated Bi-State Designation—Designation by the states of Illinois and Indiana
- Local initiative without legislated designation—Establish a local initiative to promote the Calumet’s shared heritage
- No Action

Residents, organizations, and governments within the Calumet region resoundingly chose National Heritage Area designation as the preferred management alternative to accomplish the goals set forth above. They understood the power of a strategy to unify people around a regional vision centered on shared heritage and the cultural, natural, and industrial assets that underpin it.



Participants in the 2016 Calumet Heritage Conference show their support for a Calumet National Heritage Area.

While all of the alternatives might contribute to successful accomplishment of some of the goals above, only National Heritage Area designation provides the bi-state collaboration, federal technical assistance, and—perhaps most importantly—the “zoomed-out” perspective that shows the unified importance of the whole region and offers the points of pride that allow people to buy into regional identity and regional action. National Heritage Area designation will help elevate and unify the region by connecting the urban areas between the Indiana Dunes and Pullman, two already nationally designated resources, to the stories of both those places, thereby validating the historical, cultural, and natural importance of the region in its entirety. A National Heritage Area extends these stories across a living natural and industrial landscape, drawing attention to the importance of the land between the parks. Of the alternatives above, only National Heritage Area designation links the story on both sides of the state line to tell the full nationally significant narrative of the region.

Furthermore, national designation will create both a discourse and a structure for bi-state collaboration, arching over long-standing divisions at the state level that have undercut unified thinking and action in the region. Designation of state heritage areas on either side of the border are unlikely to occur as no program currently exists in either state. Moreover, such a solution would fail to bridge a divide that residents, communities, and conservation efforts are keen to overcome. Initiatives including heritage, conservation, and economic development have had some success on either side of the border—namely Millennium Reserve in Illinois and One Region in Indiana. However, both of these initiatives have been hampered by their mandate to stop at the state line. Recognizing the importance of working on both sides of the border, Millennium Reserve recently has evolved into the Calumet Collaborative and has joined efforts with the Calumet Heritage Partnership in order to address the need for cross-border vision and action.

The No Action alternative is simply not an option. It would leave in place the status quo of significant state, county, and municipal boundaries that submerge regional commonalities. While excellent education and stewardship programs would continue in the region, they would exist in relative isolation. They would not benefit from the connection to one another or across natural and cultural sectors that national designation would provide. Organizations such as the Calumet Heritage Partnership, newly encompassing the Calumet Stewardship Initiative, would continue to do bi-state programming, but with no explicit recognition or creation of a regional or National Heritage Area, would not have the capacity to make the most of the region’s potential.



Local History/Historic Preservation community conversation held at the Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office in Gary.

In community conversations, stakeholder interviews, and two rounds of public meetings, individuals and organizations alike expressed strong support for a Calumet National Heritage Area. The feasibility study process led by the Calumet Heritage Partnership has reflected a wider movement within the region over the last two years, in which several leading regional organizations joined CHP in explicitly stating designation of a National Heritage Area as a key undertaking. In short, the region is ready, and the time for National Heritage Area designation is now.

PART TWO

The Partnership Network for a Calumet National Heritage Area and Its Regional Goals and Priorities

The Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA) effort is supported by a rich array of partners. They represent a diversity of stakeholder interests, are rooted in scales that range from the very local to national, and extend from one end of the region to the other. The partners have also become part of a growing network—largely but not exclusively coordinated by the Calumet Heritage Partnership—that wants and can support a National Heritage Area.

Organizations and institutions in the Calumet region have forged network connections that have increased in capacity and cohesion over the past two decades, through three stages of development:

- 1. Convening.** Partners are called into an evolving network because they perceive some common issue to address.
- 2. Aligning.** Partners work to develop a common vision and core objectives.
- 3. Producing.** Projects resolve to work together to achieve on-the-ground impact.

Convening

The Calumet National Heritage Area network was originally convened by the Calumet Ecological Park Association (CEPA), which grew from a node of activities on the Southeast Side of Chicago in the 1990s. Leaders of CEPA, frustrated that the City of Chicago's only solution to deindustrialization and pollution was the Lake Calumet Airport proposal, had the insight that the region's existing environmental assets could form the core of a "Calumet Ecological Park." This ultimately led to the NPS study that, in turn, led to the creation of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. The Southeast Environmental Task Force shares office space with CEPA, and when its leaders noticed that Chicago's last steel structures were being demolished in 2004, worked to create the Steel Heritage Task Force that ultimately blended with CHP.

When the Calumet Heritage Partnership first convened in 1999 with the technical assistance of NPS, a range of partners first became engaged in the Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA) effort. Of the 32 different entities and individuals who attended the convening meetings in 1999, 20 have remained engaged with the process, either through hosting or attending meetings, serving on the CHP Board, Advisory Group, and Task Force, or engaging with the Calumet Collaborative. In short, this initial convening phase, first by CEPA and then by CHP, not only established a regional goal of forming a National Heritage Area, but it recruited a core group of individuals and organizations that worked diligently as partners on the effort for more than a decade.

The first decade of the new millennium also saw the significant development of the Calumet Stewardship Initiative (CSI) as a bi-state regional network that ultimately grew to forty-four partner organizations devoted to environmental education, volunteer ecological stewardship, and programming in green infrastructure and recreation. CSI includes



The Calumet Stewardship Initiative office has served as a gathering space for the Southeast Environmental Task Force, the Calumet Ecological Park Association, and the Calumet Heritage Partnership for over fifteen years.

not only staff from key landowning agencies, but representatives from grassroots organizations such as United Urban Network (Gary) and the Southeast Environmental Task Force (Chicago). Significant funding by the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation brought support to land conservation efforts across the region and the preparation of a map that helped to re-establish a strong regional consciousness across state lines. In 2010, the Foundation was a major supporter of the *Calumet Summit: A Call to Connect*, a two day event attended by over 200 people that built strong connections from “place to place”, from “people to place,” and from “people to people”. One other strong connection, “from past to future”, supported dialogue around the region’s heritage. In concluding the Summit, Sir Peter Crane, then Dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, signaled a transition from “convening” to “alignment” with these words: “What is the new slogan that will define this remarkable region? We need to decide, and the watchwords should be: **regionalism**—not parochialism; **landscape scale**—not just our own backyard; and, **partnerships**—not blinkered individualism.”

Aligning

A second, “alignment” phase has characterized the evolving network since then. In 2011, The Field Museum, which had sponsored a community asset mapping effort that resulted in the *Journey Through Calumet* website, set up the Calumet Environmental Education Program, sponsored a Bioblitz in 2002, supported the growth of CSI, and was recruited as a major partner for the heritage effort. The Museum was able to devote significant staff time to the effort and also secured an important resource commitment from the region’s largest employer, ArcelorMittal, to vest the effort with the means to support conferences, build communications, and hire consultants to guide the process. There is a direct link to CHP, as that organization’s President became a Field Museum employee. Significant effort was devoted to building the capacity of the CHP board, which reflects a bi-state, regional reach and broader network capacity within the organizations:

- City of Blue Island, IL
- Calumet Area Industrial Commission, IL
- The Field Museum, IL
- City of Gary, IN
- Indiana Landmarks, IN
- InSites, IL
- Southeast Chicago Historical Society, IL
- Southeast Environmental Task Force, IL
- South Shore Arts, IN
- Valparaiso University, IN

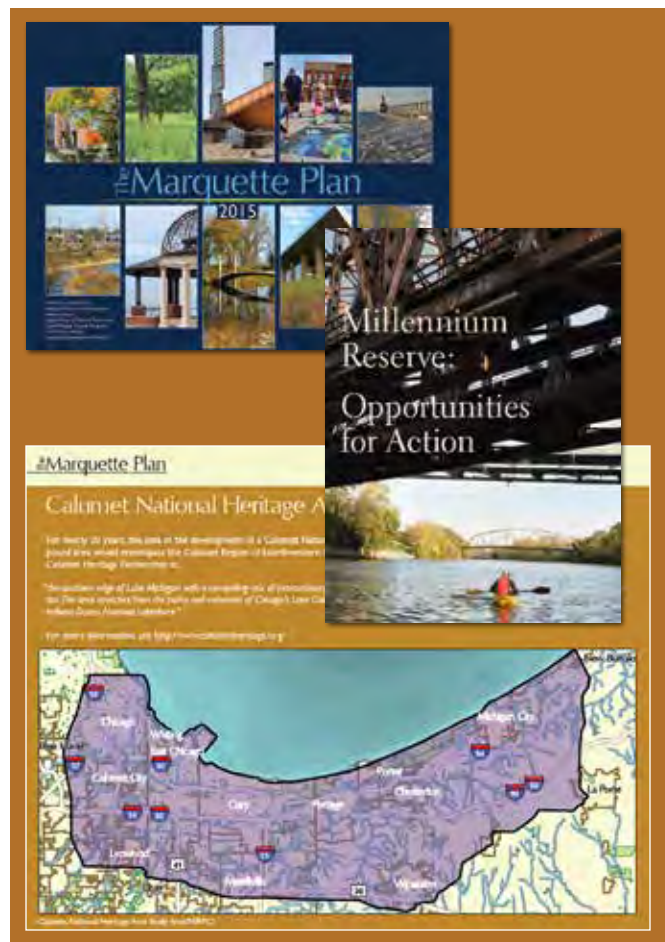
In addition, the board has enjoyed a longstanding close relationship with the Pullman State Historic Site, which houses CHP’s collection of rescued Acme Steel artifacts. It has also joined forces with the Calumet Stewardship Initiative and has recruited new members from CSI to serve on the board from CSI. CHP served as fiscal agent for two regional summits that CSI convened, the *2013 Calumet Summit: Connecting for Action* and the *2015 Calumet Summit: Advancing our Shared Agenda*. These events served as milestone moments in the alignment of a broad set of regional stakeholders around the concept of a National Heritage Area.



From top: Barb Labus presents on the theme of *Art and Heritage: The Making of the Calumet Region* at the 2014 Calumet Heritage Conference; voting for the next “big idea” for the region at the 2013 Calumet Summit; table discussions strengthen regional connections.

The process of building a regional partners network also included integrating the National Heritage Area concept into significant regional planning processes. When the National Heritage Area process slowed in the early 2000s, Indiana Congressman Peter Visclosky supported the development of the Marquette Plan, focused on future development along and access to the Lake Michigan shoreline in Indiana. The Plan is a joint product of work by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and the cities of East Chicago, Gary, Hammond, Portage, and Whiting. The 2015 update to the Marquette Plan integrated historic and cultural resources into the plan, and a Calumet National Heritage Area was called out as an excellent mechanism to accomplish some of the plan's goals.

In Illinois, the Millennium Reserve Steering Committee was convened in 2013, with more than two dozen community leaders gathered to foreground priority projects for the Calumet region. Members of the Committee include the directors of public entities such as the Chicago Park District, Cook County Forest Preserves, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, the Illinois Coastal Management Program, and Illinois International Port District, leaders of key non-profits like Openlands and the Metropolitan Planning Council, the heads of strategically important foundations like the Chicago Community Trust, Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and leaders from leading corporations like ArcelorMittal. When Governor Pat Quinn, who had created Millennium Reserve by Executive Order, was defeated for re-election, the group voluntarily stayed at the table for a year until new Governor Bruce Rauner issued a new Executive Order, charging it to build partnerships, including



Regional plans include the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area as a valuable asset.

across the state line, and creating a pathway for it to attain non-profit status in its own right so that it could serve as a fiscal agent on projects, hire staff, and better coordinate the work. Clearly, here was a group with capacity to incubate and grow projects across the region.

The Millennium Reserve Steering Committee selected the National Heritage Area as a priority project, and the Chair of the Steering Committee and the Executive Director of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) spoke at Summits and Heritage Conferences in support of the concept. As the group evolved, it renamed itself the Calumet Collaborative and sought a set of Indiana entities roughly parallel to those in Illinois to join. Key Indiana networks like the business-oriented Northwest Indiana Forum and the quality of life-oriented One Region group joined, along with other entities like the NIRPC, the Indiana Coastal Zone Management program, and community foundations such as the Legacy Foundation.



Governor Bruce Rauner issues an Executive Order to continue the work of the Millennium Reserve.

The period of alignment included not only the gathering of support for the concept of a National Heritage Area, but a growing appreciation for what it could accomplish. As the network gathers strength, the feasibility of a National Heritage Area is assured. To summarize, some of the core institutions now involved include:

Networks and Partnerships

- One Region. The new executive director previously worked at The Field Museum on the CNHA.
- Northwest Indiana Forum.
- South Suburban Mayors and Managers. CHP invited to present to the Mayors at a monthly meeting.
- Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. CHP invited to present to the Executive Board. The executive director has presented on the concept. The director of environmental programs co-led the Marquette Plan update with a CHP board member.
- Calumet Area Industrial Commission. The EHS Director serves on the CHP board.
- Calumet Stewardship Initiative. CHP served as fiscal agent for two Summits. CSI and CHP have agreed to combine, with CSI serving as a committee of CHP.
- Calumet Heritage Partnership.
- Calumet Land Conservation Partnership. A group of ten partners focused on land conservation, especially questions of acquisition/protection, management, and restoration.

Partner Entities

- Shirley Heinze Land Trust. The executive director served as co-chair of CSI with the President of CHP and worked to combine the two entities.
- The Field Museum.
- South Shore Arts. The executive director serves on the CHP board.
- Calumet Ecological Park Association.
- ArcelorMittal. The President of ArcelorMittal Foundation serves as co-chair of the Calumet Collaborative. ArcelorMittal has provided financial resources to support the effort.
- Metropolitan Water Reclamation District.

- Openlands. The President of the organization was an inventor of the concept of National Heritage Areas and has had long experience with them.
- National Park Service. CHP works in collaboration with the Superintendent of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the Pullman National Monument.
- National Parks Conservation Association. NPCA included the concept of a National Heritage Area in its strategic plan for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Foundations

- Chicago Community Trust.
- Legacy Foundation.
- Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation.

Producing

As the CNHA effort moves to a phase where it wants to “produce”, that is, to take action on the ground, it can be guided by other major planning efforts.

Key themes in both Illinois’ and Indiana’s comprehensive regional plans would be supported by an emphasis on heritage. Creating livable communities is one of four important themes of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning’s *GO TO 2040 Plan*. Echoing that, NIRPC’s *2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan* strongly supports urban reinvestment in the region’s “core cities” along the shore of Lake Michigan.

Other plans have advanced themes that strongly complement the CNHA effort. Chicago Wilderness, the regional biodiversity consortium of over 200 members, prepared a *Biodiversity Recovery Plan* in 1999 that put the Chicago region at the vanguard of metropolitan ecological restoration centers and that still guides restoration work today. *The Greenways + Blueways 2020 Plan* is an update and extension of the *2007 Greenways + Blueways Plan* and the *2010 Ped & Pedal Plan*. The plan, created by NIRPC, outlines strategies to create new public walking trails (greenways) and paddling routes (blueways) in Northwest Indiana. It outlines the basic principles of trail design, evaluates the feasibility of creating specific routes, details the benefits and drawbacks of each proposed path, and discusses the benefits of such public recreational resources to the quality of life of local citizens, the community, and the environment. Similar plans exist in Northeastern Illinois, though as yet the trail plans have not been formally stitched together across the state line.



A National Heritage Area is called out as a way to shape the future of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Some plans specifically call for a National Heritage Area, such as the Millennium Reserve and Marquette Plan. Fewer documents have been more explicit than the National Parks Conservation Association’s 2011 *The Future of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore: National Park, Regional Treasure*. That plan brought forward the idea of a “Heritage Trail” to connect

downtown Chicago with the Dunes. It went on to make a direct connection to the 1998 NPS *Calumet Ecological Park Resource Study* and noted NPS’s suggestion that the Calumet region might be a candidate for a National Heritage Area. The plan went on to say: “We agree, provided there is significant local leadership and funding to make a Heritage Trail or Heritage Area a meaningful way to draw tourism and interest to the region. The Field Museum is already taking the lead to identify and research these important sites—The Calumet Heritage Partnership should be at the core of those efforts.”

As described in Chapter 2, key regional goals and priorities emerge from a close reading of regional plans and many community conversations. We return to those goals and priorities now, but with a finer appreciation at this point of feasible potential approaches to meet the goals, and now with a sense of actors in the network who could take the lead. This table is meant to be suggestive only. It is also important to note again that CHP and the Calumet Collaborative will have the critical coordinating and prioritizing roles.

TABLE 4: Key Regional Goals and Priorities

Goals and Priorities	Potential Approaches	Potential Partners
ENVIRONMENT AND STEWARDSHIP		
The Calumet region has played an important role in conservation, ecological study, and environmental protection. The area continues to possess a rich conservation ethic, ecologically significant sites, and outstanding services by agencies to protect the environment and public health. Priorities to enhance environmental treasures across the bi-state region are:		
• Identify, connect, and enhance important sub-geographies such as the Dune & Swale, Moraine Forest, and river corridors	Convene the member organizations of existing conservation consortia and partnerships that are already working in the region.	CLCP, CSI
• Coordinate land management, ecological restoration, land acquisition, and trail development activities in key habitat areas	Convenings described above and include key civic stakeholders like block and social clubs, congregations, and service agencies with geographically defined constituencies so they can give input on acquisition, management, and development.	CLCP, CSI
• Provide improved access to existing natural areas	Build partnerships among ecological conservation and management organizations and community groups who can collaboratively identify barriers and incentives to access.	CLCP, CSI
• Restore, manage, and promote healthy watershed systems	Convene point source polluters and pollution concerned stakeholders to discuss pollution impacts and remedies.	NWI Urban Waters
• Promote the protection of coastal and estuarine areas and waters	Encourage conservation behaviors and improve access. Use ethnographic data and CBSM approaches to leverage diverse social norms to promote behavioral change.	CSI, TFM
• Develop a stewardship model for bi-state Calumet that includes measures of success for both ecosystem restoration and volunteer engagement	Measures will depend on the nature of individual programs.	CSI
• Reduce the impact of light pollution on the region’s environment	Support municipalities that integrate the International Dark-Sky Association’s measures into their planning.	CHP

GUIDE TO ABBREVIATIONS: CC = Calumet Collaborative; CHP = Calumet Heritage Partnership; CMAP = Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning; Coastal = Illinois/Indiana Coastal Zone Management Program; CSEDC = Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation; CSI = Calumet Stewardship Initiative; DLC = Dunes Learning Center; Hourglass = Hourglass Museum; NIRPC = Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission; NWI Forum = Northwest Indiana Forum; POCO = Porter County Museum; PSHS = Pullman State Historic Site; SECHM = Southeast Chicago Historical Museum; SHLT = Shirley Heinze Land Trust; SSA = South Shore Arts; SSMMA = South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association; TFM = The Field Museum; USFS = United States Forest Service

Goals and Priorities	Potential Approaches	Potential Partners
CULTURAL HERITAGE / HISTORIC PRESERVATION		
The communities of the Calumet region are sites of significant cultural history. But sites of significance are often unrecognized and unappreciated. Priorities are:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and showcase the industrial, natural, and community heritage of the bi-state region through education, festivals, and other cultural activities 	<p>Create bi-state regional consortium/network of local heritage groups, museums, archives, and historical societies to increase capacity and visibility for individual and potential collaborative work.</p> <p>Develop a range of interpretive tools (e.g. tours and quests) that teach about important Calumet places while placing them within their regional and national context.</p> <p>Linked to “improved access to natural areas” above, create materials/events that highlight links between the landscape and human history and cultural practice.</p>	CHP, SECHM, PSHS, Ind. Landmarks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, conserve, and restore significant landmark sites, including homes, commercial and religious structures, public buildings, and planned industrial communities 	<p>Help consortia or individual organizations leverage preservation resources.</p> <p>Convene dialogue among interested stakeholders on regional priorities.</p> <p>Develop coordinated archival strategy, starting with three core partners who operate the Calumet Industrial Heritage archives</p>	CHP, Ind. Landmarks, CHP, PSHS, SECHM, Cal Regional Archives, POCC, Hourglass
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, protect, and preserve important archeological sites in the region 	<p>Consider if Calumet region needs public archaeological sites to increase awareness of early European and Native American precontact periods.</p>	TFM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a bi-state regional dialogue 	<p>Expand participation and perhaps frequency of Calumet Summits</p> <p>Expand participation in annual Calumet Heritage Conference, while considering if its scope should change.</p> <p>Identify and bring together all possible Calumet partner organizations in an effort to build a heritage alliance that represents the cultural diversity of the Calumet region.</p>	CHP, CSI, CC, TFM, CHP
RECREATION		
The Calumet region historically has contained significant places to relax and to play. Priorities across the bi-state region are:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop the region’s system of trails and improve the connections between them 	<p>See strategies under “Provide improved access to existing natural areas.”</p> <p>Raise awareness of regional history and identity, and use this broader regional self-concept and the opportunities of NHA status to leverage participation by formerly reluctant municipalities.</p>	CLCP, CSI, NIRPC, SSMMA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve existing and develop new recreational sites 	<p>See above.</p> <p>Convene broad input on recreational priorities and opportunities, particularly those that might bring people together across lines of social division.</p>	CHP, CC, NIRPC, CMAP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to the Lake Michigan shoreline 	<p>See cell above, but in this case with attention to the contentious nature of shoreline control and access.</p>	Coastal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote tourism and ecotourism 	<p>Convene existing tourism agencies to explore complementary and collaborative ways to promote the NHA and leverage the NHA designation to promote the areas they are charged with promoting.</p>	CHP, CC
THE ARTS		
The region’s landscape and heritage are significant sources of artistic inspiration, especially with attention-grabbing proximity of nature and industry. There is a thriving arts community in the Calumet region but it is not well recognized. Priorities are:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and support: the existing folk and fine arts heritage of the region artists and arts organization 	<p>Make the variety and quality of the arts that exists at the regional scale visible across the many social and political boundaries that artists cite as barriers to reaching wider audiences.</p> <p>Increase residents and visitors comfort crossing boundaries by stressing the shared Calumet regional identity.</p> <p>Create arts events that focus on regional heritage themes of broad appeal.</p>	CHP, SSA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the role of the arts in regional-scale place-making 	<p>Use art to transform heritage spaces in ways that build community, enhance civic engagement, and are compelling to visitors. This can be particularly important in places where original structures and landscapes have been erased/badly degraded and new constructions that evoke a blend of the old and new meanings are needed.</p>	CHP, CC, TFM

Goals and Priorities	Potential Approaches	Potential Partners
ECONOMY		
Industry has been a key identifying factor and the backbone of the Calumet region. The region's industries are in flux, making stability and redevelopment key goals. Conserving the industrial heritage of the Calumet region is important, but should be coupled with efforts to support existing industries and attract new investment, and build on environmental and community assets. Priorities are:		
• Make the most of opportunities that meet the “triple bottom line” that enhance economy, build community, and protect environment	Structurally serve as an organization that facilitates the collaboration of heritage, non-profit, governmental, and commercial entities .	CC
• Improve the lakeshore in ways that balance industrial development and water based tourism and recreation	See previous entry. Offer interpretation and historical insights on the shoreline to inform planning initiatives.	NIRPC, CHP
• Utilize brownfield sites for industrial development	See previous entry, both points, and substitute “brownfield” for “shoreline.”	
• Increase tourism marketing at the bi-state regional scale	Convene the range of cross-sector stakeholders with an interest in regional brand identity building. Play a leading role in developing regional marketing themes, on the group identity markers, and wayfinding priorities.	CC, CHP
• Attract and retain a workforce that enjoys a high quality of life by residing in the region	A consequence of all the other strategies.	CC, CSEDC, NWI Forum
• Identify and elevate opportunities for adaptive reuse of buildings and other structures, such as closed steel mills and Union Station in Gary, to become regional gateways or interpretive centers	Lead the convening of stakeholders to consider a range of appropriate repurposing of historic buildings and to identify them. Within the consortium, lead efforts to repurpose locations as heritage education and tourism stops.	CC, CHP
WAYFINDING AND BRANDING		
• Develop a comprehensive regional system of signage and wayfinding to guide visitors and local residents through the region, provide details about specific locations, build regional identity through branding, and connect the region's places through themes and stories.	See Potential Approaches for “Economy” section above, in particular the “Increase tourism marketing at the bi-state regional scale” bullet.	
• Create a brand identity for wayfinding that boosts regional connectivity and pride in place	See above, and contract consultants to advise on this process for the region.	CC, CHP
• Interpret sites and spaces through signage, exhibitions, and other media	Already a set of approaches, so just a question of appropriate role players.	
EDUCATION		
The cultural and environmental heritage of the Calumet region offer unique opportunities to engage children and adults in place-based learning. A National Heritage Area could provide a network to facilitate the creation, connection, and enhancement of educational programming around environmental conservation and stewardship, economy, the arts, cultural heritage and historic preservation, and interpretation. Priorities are:		
• Develop heritage-based curricula in partnership with local primary, secondary, and post-secondary educational institutions	Connect to professional organizations of academics and educators to develop/partner in development of curricula. Identify and establish buy-in of local “users” of curricula, and their potential contributors to development process.	CHP, TFM, SHLT, DLC
• Develop life-long learning programs	Create, or coordinate the creation, of substantial learning opportunities for adults.	TFM, Treekeepers, USFS
• Connect with area scientists	Benchmark and document programs and best practices for citizen science/ social science, and hands-on/on-site learning Identify interested scientists from institutions (universities, colleges, museums, archives, etc.) across the region who would like to participate in programming.	TFM, NPS
• Identify local geographies within the region as priority areas for programming and types of programs to prioritize for those regions	Convene regional stakeholders in science, social science, and citizen science to coordinate prioritization and the roll out of actual programs.	CSI

The benefits of a broad partnership base are crucial for all National Heritage Areas. As demonstrated above, the Calumet enjoys strong partnerships that have been developed and nurtured over decades. New partnerships will continue to be established as a management plan is developed and implemented.

Partnerships can exist in a wide-ranging number of formats. Some partnerships are formally defined through Memoranda of Understanding, Memoranda of Agreement, and even contracts that establish the framework for the working relationship between the parties in the national heritage area. The partnership between CHP and the Calumet Collaborative, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (described later in the chapter), is a perfect example. Other partnerships may be defined by legislation or resolutions passed by a local government and even the coordinating entity for the National Heritage Area. While these agreements might be necessary in some instances for carrying out the activities of the partners for the conservation of resources, there can be other types of partnerships that do not require a legal document for a partnership to develop and flourish. These hand-shake relationships within National Heritage Areas often provide the greatest flexibility to the parties in defining changing roles and may have very positive results.

It should be noted that the benefit of partnership, if successful, can and should work both ways in benefiting the partners. The coordinating entity must be able to bring as much to the table to benefit its partner as it is expecting to receive. If the partner is a corporation or business, the National Heritage Area can assist in several ways including website positioning to thank the partner; access for the business and its employees to gain greater exposure in the community, tax credits or tax benefits from contributions of labor, supplies, or money, among other benefits.

The partnerships developed in the Calumet region can be further forged with opportunities between the heritage areas (existing and developing), and other organizations for shared services, shared employees, shared office or other capital equipment, and continued shared marketing and promotions.

PART THREE

Managing a Calumet National Heritage Area

National Heritage Areas are a regional strategy as much as they are an actual place. They are comprised of a large network of often diverse partners over which no one entity has authority. These partners come together in a hub, an organization that is able to connect to the diverse interests of the varied members of the network. The organization at the hub is a convener, a facilitator, a keeper of the regional vision. It is effective not because of any power vested in it, but rather because of its success in wielding influence. The development of a National Heritage Area in the Calumet region requires the identification or creation of an organization that can wield influence with a wide variety of public and private entities in historic preservation, natural resource conservation, heritage tourism, interpretation and education, and economic and community development.



2015 Calumet Summit

The selection or creation of an organization to manage the NHA is not the single most important issue for federal designation. It is, however, the single most important factor in what makes NHAs sustainable and have long-term success. Too often, burgeoning National Heritage Areas with outstanding cultural and historical significance have struggled or floundered because the long-term management question was not given enough consideration or the questions that partners raised concerning capacity were left unanswered. The strongest coordinating entities for NHAs have been the ones that have recognized the needs of the region and the partners and built coalitions that support and have confidence in the coordinating entity. In the best world, the identification of a coordinating entity should be left to the management plan, but the National Park Service puts more emphasis on this question not just being explored but being finalized in the feasibility study. Although resolving this issue is generally preferable, it is possible to identify an interim coordinating entity that carries the NHA through the planning, leaving the determination of long-term management to the management plan.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership and its partners understand the feasibility study process as primarily conceptual. Future required planning, especially the management plan, will result in more specificity concerning projects and the details of regional collaboration as well as NHA organizational operations.

Through the feasibility study process, the Calumet Heritage Partnership and its partners have identified an interim management arrangement that will guide the region through the next phase of National

Heritage Area development. CHP and the new bi-state organization evolving from the Millennium Reserve, the Calumet Collaborative, will share the role of coordinating entity through the management planning phase. This direction was formalized in September 2016 through the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Calumet Heritage Partnership and the Calumet Collaborative.

Calumet Heritage Partnership is a bi-state, all-volunteer, non-profit organization whose board represents history, landmarks, environmental, arts, industrial, tourism, community development, academic, archives, and museum communities. CHP enjoys strategic partnerships with both the Calumet Stewardship Initiative and The Field Museum. The Calumet Collaborative is a new bi-state non-profit organization that has built upon the Millennium Reserve Steering Committee's leadership representing government, industry, foundation, and non-profit communities. The provisional board of the emerging Calumet Collaborative includes an equal number of Indiana and Illinois partners.

The Memorandum of Understanding provides a framework governing collaboration between CHP and the Calumet Collaborative. CHP will serve as the "public face" of the National Heritage Area. Its members have a strong knowledge base and regional expertise. Through the volunteer resources of its members, CHP will plan, coordinate, and publicize the day-to-day activities of the National Heritage Area. Under the MOU, CHP's roles and responsibilities include:

- Provide oversight of the Calumet National Heritage Area program, ensuring alignment with statements of national significance, themes, resources, and geographic scope as defined in the feasibility study
- Convene an annual conference that fosters bi-state conversations
- Assume the functions and coordinating role for the Calumet Stewardship Initiative
- Collaborate with the Calumet Collaborative to develop project ideas for regional redevelopment in concert with the Calumet National Heritage Area's mission and themes
- Collaborate with regional partners to bring projects to fruition with roles and responsibilities to be clearly determined as projects evolve



Public meeting participants discuss the proposed themes, resources, and boundary of the Calumet National Heritage Area.



Calumet Heritage Conference: A Heritage Resources Journey participants shared their memories or impressions of the region by contributing a six-word story “C-Note,” to a display; conference goers pore over artifacts from the Acme collection stored at Pullman during an afternoon workshop.

The Calumet Collaborative will support “back office” operations of the National Heritage Area. As an organization that represents regional agency, foundation, and non-profit leaders, the Calumet Collaborative has management expertise, a track-record of fiduciary responsibility, and fundraising experience and resources. Under the MOU, the Calumet Collaborative’s role includes:

- Design a financial sustainability model for the Calumet National Heritage Area
- Hire staff to carry out the program for the Calumet National Heritage Area with CHP’s approval
- Lead fundraising efforts and coordinate financial affairs and human resources on behalf of the Calumet National Heritage Area
- Design a governance structure such that CHP is integrated into the governance of the Calumet Collaborative
- Lead the development of regional-scale projects and incorporate heritage themes and methods in collaboration with CHP

- Collaborate with CHP to develop a Calumet National Heritage Area management plan

The relationship between the two groups allows CHP to further develop as an organization – to incubate under the Calumet Collaborative – while staffing, bookkeeping and other “back-of-the-house” responsibilities of business of the NHA falls to the Calumet Collaborative. Under the management plan, these roles may be further examined and defined and a final coordinating entity will be determined.

PART FOUR

Conceptual Financial Plan

The financial plan demonstrates the ability of the interim coordinating entity to meet federal matching requirements that will be stipulated upon NHA designation. For most NHAs, this match requirement is one non-federal dollar per NHA dollar allocated through an appropriation. At present, NPS permits in-kind support as match, but the ratio on that match may change to be less than one-to-one in the future. As a part of the Calumet feasibility study, the capability of the coordinating entity partnership to leverage federal funding with other potential financial resources has been considered.

With its vast array of partners in both Illinois and Indiana, CHP and the Calumet Collaborative are positioned to advance the National Heritage Area effort throughout the region. Critical to the success of the effort is the capacity of the coordinating entity partnership to raise the necessary funding that will be required with a NHA designation.

The example below of financial capability provides an estimate of anticipated federal funding over a 10-year period and potential sources of local matching contributions. While most NHA legislation provides federal funding authorizations of up to \$1 million a year over a 10-year period, in recent years no NHA has received \$1 million in any year, and newly designated NHAs rarely receive more than \$150,000 in the first few years until the completion and approval of a management plan. The sample portrays anticipated federal funding below the maximum authorization.

The table on the next page shows the minimum potential of funding for the Calumet National Heritage Area after designation. Recognizing that newly designated NHAs are limited to no more than \$150,000 per year until a completed management plan is approved by the Secretary of the Interior, this table illustrates funding for the first ten years after designation. In

TABLE 5: Ten Year Revenue Projection Total Revenues—\$5,100,000

Year	Federal Funds	State & Local Funds	Grantee Match	Philanthropic & Private Funds	Totals
1	150,000	50,000	20,000	80,000	300,000
2	150,000	50,000	20,000	80,000	300,000
3	150,000	50,000	20,000	80,000	300,000
4	300,000	100,000	40,000	160,000	600,000
5	300,000	100,000	40,000	160,000	600,000
6	300,000	100,000	50,000	150,000	600,000
7	300,000	100,000	55,000	145,000	600,000
8	300,000	100,000	60,000	140,000	600,000
9	300,000	100,000	65,000	135,000	600,000
10	300,000	100,000	70,000	130,000	600,000
Totals	2,550,000	850,000	440,000	1,260,000	5,100,000

NOTE: Revenues in each column may be adjusted upward or downward based on actual federal appropriations.

years one through three, the Calumet anticipates an additional \$150,000 in local match. Noted in this table is “Grantee Match” which is the minimum amount a grant recipient must provide if it receives a grant from the National Heritage Area. In years four through ten, the federal funds could increase to \$300,000 per year with the completion of the required management plan. In those same years, the Calumet anticipates increasing the amount of funding available as grants to its partners, as noted in the table.

Potential funding sources include, but are not limited to the states of Illinois and Indiana, the City of Chicago, other city and county governments, along with several foundations and corporations already allied as partners in the Calumet effort. Anticipated federal funding from the National Heritage Area program will be used to match these local funds enabling the Calumet to expand its programming and projects as the new National Heritage Area advances. In addition, an NHA designation could attract new funding partners to the heritage coalition.

A strong track record exists of government and foundation support for regionally-focused projects that enhance cultural heritage, embrace land conservation as a regional goal, and build community engagement. Key funders—notably the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, ArcelorMittal, Chicago Community Trust, Legacy Foundation, and the Illinois and Indiana Coastal Management programs—have been intimately involved in the creation of the Calumet Collaborative. This bodes very well for the feasibility of meeting the matching goals outlined above.



The Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, a recently restored and remediated brownfield site, was a favorite stop on the 2015 Calumet Heritage Conference tour of regional gems.

Strategy

One of the most important factors for any National Heritage Area is the creation and implementation of a fundraising and development strategy for its operations and programming. For National Heritage Areas, two words are needed—“sustainability” and “self-sufficiency.” Despite the ease of interchangeability of these words, sustainability and self-sufficiency are two very different terms. Sustainability for any non-profit (including National Heritage Areas) is the result of a carefully crafted development strategy that incorporates funding from a variety of sources, balancing the organization’s operations and programs with this funding stream. Self-sufficiency, on the other hand, is the ability of the coordinating entity to exist without public or private support; in essence, to be revenue-generating. To become self-sufficient, a National Heritage Area would need to become a for-profit entity, generating sufficient revenue to operate like a private business. While non-profits and National Heritage Areas can create programs that generate revenue, they rarely generate enough revenue to offset all operational expenses. *The real intent and goal, then, is to become sustainable: to raise a balance of funds from public and private sources, including grants, donations, and revenue-generating events, earned income, or other sources to support operations and programs.*

Like many other non-profit organizations and National Heritage Areas, the joint coordinating entity must plan properly for long-term financial stability and take full advantage of all the financial resources at its disposal.



Old friends from local historical societies reunite at a Calumet National Heritage Area public meeting.



Calumet Heritage Conference goers learn about Pullman's historic Florence Hotel.

The limited federal dollars available can make for hard choices: place the NPS funds into a pot to provide for projects and programs and struggle to meet administrative expenses, or cover annual operational expenses to the detriment of the Calumet National Heritage Area's programmatic mission. For the Calumet National Heritage Area, it is important to have an ongoing fundraising strategy for resource development as part of its overall strategic and operational plans.

When developing a fundraising strategy, it is important to keep in mind that sustainability planning involves more than just identifying the funding to keep the Calumet National Heritage Area programs and organization alive. Besides identifying diverse sources of funding, a well thought-out strategy should address developing other resources, including volunteers, program partners and collaborators in the initiative, as well as identifying and cultivating effective leaders and key champions who can assist in fundraising.

National Heritage Areas are confronted by many demands, none greater than the need to raise the necessary funds to meet their programmatic and operational requirements. The NPS funding has stagnated over the past few years creating strains on funding and the needs to support existing NHAs while seeding support to new and developing NHAs. At its current state of existence, the funding for the NHA program is not sustainable for the needs of all the existing NHAs. Furthermore, the continuation of annual funding in the federal budget is always uncertain.

Too often, the primary reason for the partners in a developing National Heritage Area to pursue NHA designation is to ensure access to funding from NPS that comes with the designation. While this is a very important outcome that is crucial to the National

Heritage Area's establishment, the annual funding from NPS is not the solution to all of the financial needs of the National Heritage Area and is never sufficient. Some National Heritage Areas are struggling financially because of limited access to funds. The singular dependence on funding from NPS places these NHAs in considerable jeopardy, as there is no guarantee from budget year to budget year that the Congress will appropriate funds to the National Heritage Area program.

As it builds toward a management plan, the joint coordinating entity should incorporate into this work a three-to-five year development strategy that focuses on growing the NHA's revenue. The focus of the development should examine public funds (local, state and federal), private funds (corporate donations and foundations), and individual donors. To raise these funds and to maintain operational flexibility, both CHP and the Calumet Collaborative should maintain 501(c)(3) status as a charitable organization (providing the tax benefit to the contributing private party or individual).

A plan for annual giving also should be developed as part of this strategy. An annual giving plan will set targets or goals for total amounts to be raised through grants, donations, and contributions and will help by keeping a constant message across the Calumet region of the need for donations and contributions. Simple things can immediately be started, like providing a "Donate Now" button on the Calumet National Heritage Area website with an active link to PayPal or other online payment system to collect contributions from individuals. The partners can also create a list of needed items, equipment, or other materials important to its operations and post it to the website enabling viewers to see a need and possibly donate an item or sufficient funding to purchase the item.

The joint coordinating entity, with the Calumet Collaborative in the lead, must be aggressive in the pursuit of public funds from other state programs and/or federal programs related to environment, education, tourism, history, and community development. Similarly, private corporations and foundations often provide funding for projects in these categories. Securing funding from a public grant may help lay the foundation for a grant from a private foundation furthering the goals of a program or project. Board members should be versed in fund identification and grant writing to ensure this necessary action advances, whether as a board activity or via staff. To assist with this work, either partner could consider hiring AmeriCorps interns who are trained within specific fields of community development work, and whose training often includes grant writing and grant identification. The joint coordinating partners should also examine the makeup of other national heritage areas, or partner organizations', funding portfolios. Often these organizations have already done the research and have identified potential grant sources that support similar programs and projects.

A membership program should also be considered. It must be noted that no membership program alone is ever going to provide sufficient funding for a non-profit to operate. What non-profits derive from members is the development of a pool of potential donors to solicit for contributions beyond their paid membership amount. This database can become vital to the establishment of a successful annual giving strategy, generating unforeseen contributions. The



Current and former Calumet Heritage Partnership board members locate newly mapped natural and cultural resources at a public meeting review.

membership can also become a good source to mine for potential volunteers and board members.

In the end, a sound, effective, and carefully thought-out development strategy, which includes an annual giving plan, will help the partners to broaden the revenue base for the National Heritage Area and make it less vulnerable to state budget problems, or fluctuations with economic changes that occur.



Looking out onto the newly restored landscape from the Marquette Park Pavilion terrace.

Caption Page 61: The executive director of Northwest Indiana's Regional Development Authority gives a presentation at the 2013 Calumet Summit.

Summary of Feasibility

The Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study has examined the big idea generated by regional stakeholders over the past two decades: that the region's disparate themes and interests can be gathered into a shared vision and that a Calumet National Heritage Area would be an excellent way to make it happen. The study has asked: is this idea feasible? Is there really a nationally significant story about this place? Are there resources on the ground that could help to tell that story? Is there a framework and capacity to tell that story?

To frame the answers to these and other relevant questions about the feasibility of a Calumet National Heritage Area, the National Park Service lists ten interim criteria for evaluation of candidate areas by the NPS, Congress, and the public. The study answers these questions. Each criterion is listed below, followed by a statement describing how this study has demonstrated the feasibility and suitability of National Heritage Area designation for the Calumet region.

1. An area has an assemblage of natural, historic, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such an assemblage through partnerships among public and private entities, and by combining diverse and sometimes noncontiguous resources and active communities;

The Calumet region has an important story of national significance to be told concerning how the natural world was changed to make way for industry, transportation, and peoples from across the country and around the world. Through the process of preparing the feasibility study, engaged residents and organizations identified 440 resources that contribute to the region's industrial, natural, and cultural heritage. Of those, 227 resources of special significance have been selected to illustrate key themes of the story.

2. Reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

The rich cultural diversity of the region is sustained in a variety of ways that are reflected in the resource inventory.



A blast furnace bell is stored at the Pullman National Monument. Strong opportunities to document and preserve industrial artifacts and places exist in the region.

3. Provides outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, cultural, historic, and/or scenic features;

The region is one of the nation's richest visual landscapes, combining a heavy industrial presence with meticulous ecological restorations. Large opportunities exist in land conservation, especially in working with a partner network to manage and connect existing protected lands. Very large opportunities exist in historic and industrial archaeological conservation.



Exciting new regional trails like the Wolf Lake Trail connect natural areas with industrial landscapes.

4. Provides outstanding recreational and educational opportunities;

Strong partner networks exist to build connected curriculum on natural and cultural heritage. Urban recreational opportunities are outstanding, with a rapidly expanding network of land and water trails, new bike parks, heritage tourism, and better connections being made to the Chicago market.

5. The resources important to the identified theme or themes of the area retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpretation;

The resources needed to interpret key themes are able to support interpretation, especially if action is taken soon to secure them.



Regional leaders work to identify existing key recreational and educational opportunities at 2015 Calumet Summit.

6. Residents, business interests, non-profit organizations, and governments within the proposed area are involved in the planning, have developed a conceptual financial plan that outlines the roles for all participants including the federal government, and have demonstrated support for designation of the area;

A vigorous partner network to support the National Heritage Area has been assembled by the Calumet Heritage Partnership. A new Calumet Collaborative will bring capacity to regional-scale projects. The two organizations have a Memorandum of Understanding to operate as the joint coordinating entity.

7. The proposed coordinating entity and units of government supporting the designation are willing to commit to working in partnership to develop the heritage area;

Lead regional partners include the Northwestern Indiana Planning Commission, the regional planning agency in Indiana. The Calumet Collaborative includes leaders of key government agencies involved in land management across the Calumet region.

8. The proposal is consistent with continued economic activity in the area;

The region is a major American working landscape. This economic activity includes a twenty-first-century balance with the nationally significant natural and historical context in which it sits.



The landmark South Shore railroad connects two national parks, major steel production areas, and downtown Chicago.

9. A conceptual boundary map is supported by the public;

A core multi-trait regional boundary is widely accepted, and an operational/administrative boundary that includes all of three northwest Indiana counties is also accepted.

10. The coordinating entity proposed to plan and implement the project is described.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership and Calumet Collaborative have agreed to be joint coordinating entities for the management planning process. The final coordinating entity will be named in the management plan.

Conclusions and Some Next Steps

In short, this study shows that the Calumet National Heritage Area meets the criteria set by the National Park Service. As said in Chapter 1, the Calumet region's story has been years in the telling, and now it can be clearly stated that a Calumet National Heritage Area is desirable, feasible, and poised to get started.

In a large, complicated region like the Calumet area, and with an agenda full of goals and priorities, what should the National Heritage Area actually begin? A

good answer to that question can be found in the voices of community members and regional leaders who made recommendations through the range of meetings and conversations held over the course of the feasibility study. These recommendations point to particular projects to be undertaken in a regional context that should move forward soon:

1. Pursue a federal designation for a Calumet National Heritage Area.
2. Develop a consolidated bi-state calendar of heritage-oriented events.
3. Convene and engage a broad group of local heritage organizations.
4. Build a consortium of local archival, historical, and cultural institutions.
5. Coordinate existing wayfinding and trail efforts into a bi-state, regional plan.
6. Pursue funding for a management plan for the Calumet National Heritage Area

While all of these actions are desirable, none of them is the only litmus test for whether the Calumet is described as a National Heritage Area.

In many critical ways, it already is.



Next steps in the region may take you into the restored Miller Woods area near downtown Gary.

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¹ After the public comment phase, it was realized that a less-conceptual boundary would be the better way to insure that interested municipalities would be part of the NHA. It is now recommended that the management plan include a boundary that allows more municipalities which comprise the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association to be at least touched by the Heritage Area boundary. This could be accomplished with a simple east-west line along the line of Crete-Monee between the state line and I-57, and then north on I-57 to where it intersects the previous boundary at Crawford Avenue.

² Bouman, 104-110.

³ Meyer, (1945), 142-159. Meyer would write that “its regional use well expresses a chorographic reality coinciding roughly with the Calumet drainage basin and the essential homogeneity of its historic-geographic cultural development.” There are two excellent recent books on the Chicago River system: Solzman, *Chicago River*; Hill, *Chicago River*: Until 1805, what we now call the Little Calumet and Grand Calumet were one long hairpin shaped stream called the Grand Calumet, or Calumet, with headwaters near Michigan City and a mouth near Gary. Near the apex of the hairpin was Lake Calumet; a low ridge of sand separated this Grand Calumet from another stream that drained Lake Calumet called, confoundingly, the Little Calumet. The path of that Little Calumet followed today’s main stem of the Calumet River. In 1805 a storm – possibly aided by Indians -- breached the sand ridge and connected the two streams. In geological parlance, this Little Calumet “captured” the Grand Calumet, and the river system had a new mouth at South Chicago, with two legs, a northern one called the Grand Calumet (still with an occasionally used mouth at Gary) and the southerly Little Calumet. The meandering history of the Grand Calumet, Little Calumet, and main stem Calumet is best explained by Schoon, *Calumet Beginnings*, pp. 39-42 and is built on the unpublished work of historian Paul Petraitis. Petraitis’s work is also reflected in Solzman, *Chicago River*, especially in the map on p. 20. Moore discussed the closing of the Indiana mouth of the Grand Calumet in *Calumet Region*, pp. 10-11.

⁴ Note, for example, how central the Chicago Portage is to the story told in Donald Miller’s *Chicago: City of the Century*.

⁵ For more on the dam constructed at Blue Island in 1848 and the feeder canal that led from there to the I&M Canal, see Schoon, p. 104.

⁶ “The Illinois side of the Calumet is particularly distinguished for the grove pattern of settlement.” [Meyer (1956): 322] “...as in the case of rural settlement, urban settlement on the Illinois side progressed in this period more slowly than on the Indiana side of the Calumet.” [(1956): 330]

⁷ Cowles, in Fryxell, 9.

⁸ A sketch of *Thysmia americana* forms the frontispiece of Swink and Wilhelm’s magisterial *Plants of the Chicago Region*.

⁹ Greenberg (2009).

¹⁰ Schoon. A.M. Knotts, in Meyer (1945), 146.

¹¹ Alfred H. Meyer (1945), 142-59

¹² Keating (2012), 198.

¹³ Schoon, 58.

¹⁴ Campion, 32-62.

¹⁵ Lang

¹⁶ See, for example, Borchert, Chandler, Conzen, Cronon, Miller, and Warner.

¹⁷ Robert Lewis, “Networks and the Industrial Metropolis: Chicago’s Calumet District, 1870-1940,” in Zimmerman, 102; See also, Lewis, 2008.

¹⁸ Goodspeed, 534.

¹⁹ Colby, 292.

²⁰ G. Landen White, quoted in Lane (2006), 15.

²¹ On railroad towns, see Keating. Also see Stilgoe, *Metropolitan Corridor*, Cronon, and Chandler for examples of the way in which railroads altered perceptions of time and space. For Cowles, see Sullivan (2001), 284.

²² See, for example, Hughes, *Networks of Power*; Rose, *Cities of Light and Heat*; Cohen, et al., *Moonlight in Duneland*.

²³ Moore, 10-11; Solzman, 161. According to Solzman, the army thought of harbor improvements at the mouth of the Calumet as early as 1836, 164-165. On the *Baby Doll*, see Solzman, 187.

²⁴ Soltzman, 32; 181.

²⁵ See, for example, *Environmental Setting*.

²⁶ Many residents used the space beneath the sidewalk for storage, or even for a privy, giving rise to the expression that one was going to see Joe Pudziwalkiem (“Joe-under-the-sidewalk”), see Kenan Heise and Mark Frazel, 84.

²⁷ A good contemporary portrait of the industrial river corridor is found in Solzman, 170; 174-175.

²⁸ Schoon, 107.

²⁹ Schoon, 80; 101-102. For the “astronomical” amounts of sand, see *ibid.*, p. 86 and p. 176 where Schoon relates that the Santa Fe Railroad placed an order for 150,000 carloads of sand in 1899. Fryxell, 48.

³⁰ Schoon, 98-99; 103; Salisbury and Alden, 61; Fryxell, 48; Elizabeth A. Patterson, “Michigan City,” in Grossman.

³¹ Schoon notes the divergence of opinion on the U.S. Steel alterations at Gary, Powell Moore calling it “an achievement of epic proportions,” while Bradley J. Beckham said that “what too nature thousands of years to mold, man in the guise of progress subverted in a few months;” Schoon, 97; Moore, 275; Lane, 28. On the pumping of sand at Gary, see Schoon, 100.

³² This discussion follows Schoon’s excellent map of “Surface Geology of the Calumet Area” that forms the frontispiece of *Calumet Beginnings* as well as Willman and Lineback’s map in *Surficial Geology*.

³³ It should be noted that early farmers also worked to level the sand ridges and to deposit the sand in nearby marshes; Schoon, 97.

³⁴ Innis-Jimenez.

³⁵ The South Chicago and East Side dynamic is central to the two encyclopedia entries by David Bensman, “South Chicago” and “East Side”, in Grossman. Also see Joseph C. Bigott, “Hammond,” in *ibid*.

³⁶ Municipalities are reluctant to vacate streets because their allocation of county highway funding is based on length of the overall system. The properties owned and managed for restoration purposes by the Shirley Heinze Land Trust are open to the public. On the draining of the ridges, see Lane, 20-21.

³⁷ Geoffrey J. Martin, 766.

³⁸ Walley.

³⁹ These are the names of two classic books of Calumet regional sociology; Kornblum, *Blue-Collar Community*; Dorson, *Land of the Millrats*.

⁴⁰ This figure is derived from the U.S. Census for the area mapped in the Map Insert of *Chicago Wilderness Magazine*, Spring, 2009, and reported by Chew, “Discovering the Calumet,” in that issue.

⁴¹ Population and employment change was examined in the sixty-five census tracts that comprise twelve community areas on the Southeast Side of Chicago (South Chicago, East Side, Hegewisch, South Deering, Calumet Heights, Burnside, Pullman, Riverdale, Chatham, Avalon Park, Roseland, and West Pullman) in Bouman, “Changing Face.”

⁴² Soltzman, 163.

⁴³ These are sites listed in southeast Chicago and northwest Indiana counties on the CERCLIS list established by the Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980.

⁴⁴ CNT, refining urban ore; USFS, phytoremediation; any slag mining study.

⁴⁵ Berger, 65.

⁴⁶ Berger, 239.

⁴⁷ For a brief discussion of the Lake Calumet Airport situation in the context of airport planning in general, see Bouman, “Cities.”

⁴⁸ Botts.

⁴⁹ *Chicago Wilderness Magazine*, Spring, 2009.

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CHAPTER 2

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CHAPTER 5

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APPENDIX H

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Every project big or small is successful largely due to the collective efforts made by dedicated individuals and organizations. The full completion of the Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study can be attributed to the individuals and partner organizations listed in this section who have made invaluable contributions towards this project.

External Subject Matter Experts

The external subject matter experts provided their knowledge and expertise of the region, reviewed feasibility study content for accuracy, and assisted with the development and selection of themes.

Robert J. Boklund, MSES

La Porte County Conservation Trust

Andrew Hurley

Professor of History, University of Missouri – St. Louis

Environmental Inequalities: Class, Race, and Industrial Pollution in Gary, Indiana, 1945-1980 (1995)

Michael Innis- Jiménez

Associate Professor of American Studies, University of Alabama

Steel Barrio: The Great Mexican Migration to South Chicago, 1915-1940 (2013)

Earl R. Jones

Associate Professor of African-American Studies, Indiana University Northwest

Midtown: The Central District Life, History and Culture: The Historic African American Community, Gary, Indiana : Tour Guide (2005)

Richard Lanyon

Water Resources Engineer, Historian, Author

Draining Chicago: The Early City and the North Area (2016)

Robert Lewis

Professor of Geography, University of Toronto

Chicago Made: Factory Networks in the Industrial Metropolis, 1865-1940 (2008)

Steve McShane

Archivist and Curator of the Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University Northwest's library

Co-author, *Steel Giants: Historic Images from the Calumet Regional Archives* (2009); *Moonlight in Duneland* (1998)

Stephen Paul O'Hara

Associate Professor of History, Xavier University

Gary: The Most American of All American Cities (2011)

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Professor Emeritus of Education, Indiana University Northwest

Calumet Beginnings: Ancient Shorelines and Settlements at the South End of Lake Michigan (2003); *Dreams of Duneland* (2013); *Shifting Sands: The Restoration of the Calumet Area* (2016)

Christine J. Walley

Associate Professor of Anthropology, MIT

Exit Zero: Family and Class in Postindustrial Chicago (2013)

Themes Task Force Members

Identifying themes that demonstrate the significance and uniqueness of the Calumet region is a key step in developing a feasibility study and proposal for designation of a National Heritage Area. The Themes Task Force helped review, refine and draft the selected themes.

Mark Bouman
The Field Museum

Diane Pugh
Chicago Archivist

Carol Griskavich
Historian

Marco Salazar
Urban Art Gallery

David Holmberg
Calumet Area Industrial Commission

Tom Shepherd
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Mike Longan
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Tiffany Tolbert
Indiana Landmarks

Robert Meyer
Indiana Steel Heritage Project

Madeleine Tudor
The Field Museum

Sherry Meyer
InSites Chicago

Public Engagement Task Force Members

The Public Engagement Task force developed plans for publicity and outreach strategies, informing and engaging partner organization and agencies, public comment meetings, and interviewing key partners.

Mark Bouman
The Field Museum

Bill Peterman
Chicago State University

Jennifer Browning
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Christine Livingston
Indiana Dunes Tourism

Madeleine Tudor
The Field Museum

Johnnie Owens
Centers for New Horizons

Advisory Committee Members

The Advisory Committee offered input on aspects of the feasibility study that related to their specific areas of expertise and gave direction towards future work.

Jerry Adelmann Openlands	Sherry Meyer InSites Chicago
Vanessa Allen Urban League of Northwest Indiana	Mike Molnar Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Ders Anderson Openlands	Kay Nelson Northwest Indiana Forum
Nicole Barker Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District	Kelly Nissan-Budge ArcelorMittal
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Paul Labovitz National Park Service	Tiffany Tolbert National Trust for Historic Preservation
Paul Labus The Nature Conservancy	Madeleine Tudor The Field Museum
Mike Longan Valparaiso University	Marcy Twete ArcelorMittal
Kathy Luther Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission	Ty Warner Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Lynn McClure National Parks Conservation Association	

Calumet Heritage Partnership Board of Directors

The Calumet Heritage Partnership's key goal since its formation in 1999 has been to establish a National Heritage Area for the Calumet region. The Calumet Heritage Partnership Board has been a leader in facilitating the feasibility study process.

Amanda Aguilera - Local History Librarian, Hammond Public Library

Jason Berry - Deputy Director, Community Development, *City of Blue Island*

Mark Bouman – CHP Past President; Chicago Region Program Director, Keller Science Action Center, *The Field Museum*; member, *Millennium Reserve Steering Committee*

Karen Brozynski - CHP Secretary, President, *Southeast Chicago Historical Society*

John M. Cain – Executive Director, *South Shore Arts*

Benjamin Cox – President and CEO, *Friends of the Forest Preserves*

La’Kisha Girder – Resident, Gary, Indiana

David Holmberg – EHS Director, *Calumet Area Industrial Commission*

Gary Johnson – President, *Mortar Net Solutions*

David Klein – CHP Treasurer; Former Executive Director, *Calumet Project*, a Hammond-based community / labor / religious coalition, Webmaster and developer of *Calumet Area League of Women Voters’ Campaign Finance Online Project*

Michael Longan – CHP President, Indiana; Geography, *Valparaiso University*; webmaster, CHP

Sherry Meyer – CHP Vice President, Illinois; Community builder, urban guide, health & policy consultant, *InSites Chicago*

Diane Pugh – Certified Archivist, *Chicago Region*

Tom Shepherd – President, *Southeast Environmental Task Force*, member, *Millennium Reserve Steering Committee*; past president, *Pullman Civic Organization*

Tiffany Tolbert – CHP Vice President, Indiana; Field Officer, *National Trust for Historic Preservation*

Previous Calumet Heritage Partnership Board of Directors

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Marian Byrnes
Heath Carter
Kate Corcoran
Thomas Frank
Frank Greco
Dawn Haley
Janet Halpin

Marian Kelliher
Robert Kelliher
Richard Lytle
William Peterman
Stephen McShane
Bob Meyer
Cynthia Ogorek
Mary Poulsen
Rod Sellers

The Field Museum Staff, Interns, and Volunteers

Mark Bouman	Sherry Meyer
Sarah Carlson	Laura Milkert
Aasia Mohammad Castañeda	Lucia Procopio
Rebecca Collings	William Peterman
Chao Fan	Izabella Redlinski
Lara Gonzalez	Doug Stotz
Mark Johnston	Robb Telfer
Marc Lambruschi	Madeleine Tudor
Andrew Leith	Alaka Wali
Mario Longoni	Catie Witt
Jim Louderman	

Consultants

The two consultants provided overall guidance through the 11 feasibility study tasks, conducted stakeholder interviews, helped facilitate public comment meetings and prepared components of the study that required an outsider's perspective.

Nancy Morgan	August Carlino
Point Heritage Development Consulting	Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area

Volunteers

Many volunteers helped spread the word, design print documents, and distribute materials at community meetings and through social media. Barb Dust and Pat Hansen, however, deserve special mention for their extraordinary efforts towards this project.

Meeting Space

The Calumet Heritage Partnership, as a bi-state entity, moves its meetings from place to place. CHP is very grateful to the City of Blue Island, Hammond Public Library, Pullman State Historic Site, Southeast Environmental Task Force, Calumet Area Industrial Commission, Southeast Chicago Historical Museum, South Shore Arts, Indiana Landmarks, and the Miller Beach Arts and Creative District for hosting its meetings over the years. A very special thank you to National Parks Conservation Association for opening its doors when the need for reflection and creativity was required.

At the outset of the project, the Calumet Heritage Partnership and The Field Museum created a community engagement and communications strategy to increase the public's understanding of National Heritage Areas and the feasibility study process, maximize stakeholder participation in each of the appropriate feasibility study tasks, and connect with potential partner organizations. This appendix is divided into two parts: first the discussion of engagement, understood as the face-to-face conversations and presentations intended to explain the potential heritage area, gather public input, and garner support. Second is an overview of the marketing done to make the feasibility study process visible and compelling to potential participants.

Engagement in the Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study Process

Face-to-face engagement took a variety of forms: Community Conversations, annual Calumet Heritage Conferences, biennial Calumet Summits, Public Meetings, and Presentations and Briefings. The numbers, frequency, or locations of each of these are shown in the following tables.

Community Conversations

Held at public locations across the region, these were gatherings with anywhere from 10 to 25 participants at each. Facilitators presented the idea of the Calumet National Heritage Area, but the bulk of the time was spent eliciting feedback on national significance, themes, resources, and boundaries. Each conversation was focused on single heritage category such as local history and historic preservation, or recreation and heritage (see these categories in the table below). Data gathering was done variously through mapping, object or photo elicitation, short surveys, and note taking on conversations.

Topic and Location	State
1 Arts and Heritage Community Conversation at Calumet College of St. Joseph	IN
2 Arts and Heritage Community Conversation at Vodak East Side Public Library	IL
3 Local History and Historic Preservation Community Conversation at Indiana Landmarks	IN
4 Local History and Historic Preservation Community Conversation at Vodak East Side Public Library	IL
5 Industrial Heritage Community Conversation at Porter County Public Library	IN
6 Industrial Heritage Community Conversation at Vodak East Side Public Library	IL
7 Environment and Heritage Community Conversation at Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Preserve, Shirley Heinze Land Trust	IN
8 Environment and Heritage Community Conversation at Vodak East Side Public Library	IL
9 Recreation and Heritage Community Conversation at City Hall, Michigan City	IN
10 Recreation and Heritage Community Conversation at Vodak East Side Public Library	IL
11 Ethnic and Cultural Heritage Community Conversation at Porter County Public Library	IN
12 Ethnic and Cultural Heritage Community Conversation at Village of Riverdale	IL

Conferences and Summits

The Calumet Heritage Partnership holds an annual Calumet Heritage Conference that moves around the region, and the Calumet Stewardship Initiative hosts a biennial Calumet Summit every two years. During the time of the feasibility study they were integrated into the process. The 2015 Calumet Heritage Conference and the 2016 Calumet Summit were marketed and structured to fulfill the 1st and 2nd rounds of public meetings mandated within the feasibility study process. A full list of previous Calumet Heritage Conferences may be found at

<http://www.calumetheritage.org/conference/conference.html>

2012 Calumet Heritage Conference
A Calumet Heritage Area Revisited

2013 Calumet Heritage Conference
Network Calumet: A Heritage Resources Journey

2013 Calumet Summit
Connecting for Action

2014 Calumet Heritage Conference
Art and Heritage: The Making of the Calumet

2015 Calumet Heritage Conference
What is most nationally significant about the Calumet region?

2015 Calumet Summit
Advancing Our Shared Agenda

2016 Calumet Heritage Conference
Calumet Heritage Area: The Proposal

Public Comment Meetings

Two rounds of public meetings were held to gather feedback from the public on the themes, study boundary and proposed boundary, goals and priorities, and management alternatives. The first round was a series of four meetings over two days, at four distinct locations (see first four entries below). The second was a single large gathering at a central location in the region (final entry below).

1	The National Significance of the Calumet Region, Public Comment Meeting East Chicago Public Library (2015)	IN
2	The National Significance of the Calumet Region, Public Comment Meeting Vodak East Side Public Library (2015)	IL
3	The National Significance of the Calumet Region, Public Comment Meeting City Hall, Michigan City (2015)	IN
4	The National Significance of the Calumet Region, Public Comment Meeting South Suburban College (2015)	IL
5	Calumet National Heritage Area: The Proposal, Public Comment Meeting Lake Etta County Park (2016)	IN

Public Presentations and Briefings

A total of **34** presentations and briefings were made to a variety of local and regional community organizations throughout the Calumet region from 2014 through 2016.

	Community Organization	State
1	Calumet Revisited, Calumet College of St. Joseph	IN
2	Urban League of Northwest Indiana	IN
3	Whiting/Robertsedale Historical Society	IN
4	Lansing Historical Society	IL
5	Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, Valparaiso Chapter	IN
6	Southeast Chicago Historical Museum	IL
7	Northwest Indiana Life, Next Conversations at Porter County Museum	IN
8	South Shore Arts Board Members Meeting	IN
9	Commercial Avenue Revitalization Committee	IL
10	Calumet Area Industrial Commission Board of Directors	IL
11	Calumet Area Industrial Commission, Environmental Committee	IL
12	Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, Gary Chapter	IN
13	Calumet City Historical Society	IL
14	League of Women Voters, LaPorte County Chapter	IN
15	Friends of the Parks Policy Committee	IL
16	10 th Ward Alderman Office	IL
17	Congressman Pete Visclosky's Office	IN
18	South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society	IL
19	LaCaRe Art League, Lake and Calumet Region	IN
20	South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association	IL
21	Thornton Historical Society	IL
22	Saint Xavier University	IL
23	Porter County Museum	IN
24	Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Environmental Management Policy Committee	IN
25	Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Executive Board	IN
26	Michigan City Conference on the Environment	IN
27	Rotary International, Valparaiso Chapter	IN
28	League of Women Voters of the Calumet Region	IN

29	Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commission	IL
30	Chicago Wilderness Congress	IL, IN
31	American Association of Geography, Chicago Meeting	IL, IN
32	American Planning Association	IL
33	Vernacular Architecture Foundation	IL
34	Congressional Delegation Briefings	IL, IN

Marketing and Promotion of the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative

This section provides a sampling of the communications and marketing materials and illustration used throughout the life of the project to support the aforementioned engagement and communications goals. They include: a Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative logo and website, social media outlets, printed and digital documents, and media outreach.

A designer was hired to create the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative logo for the purpose of building a brand and visual identify for the project. The logo, shown below, highlights the study area boundary. The logo resonates with local communities as it is easily recognized as the Calumet region, though unique from other regional project logos.



Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative's online community was established through the Calumet Heritage Partnership website, Calumet Heritage Facebook page and Twitter profile. The website, www.calumetheritage.org, serves as the information hub for the project with feasibility study news, events, and opportunities for the public to stay engaged throughout the process. The Calumet Heritage Facebook page and Twitter profile has regular scheduled posts varying in content including; feasibility study news, video presentations, and local events that highlight the natural and cultural resources of the Calumet region.








Print Materials

A variety of materials were developed for the purpose of educating and promoting the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative including a Question and Answer brochure, project postcard, community meeting flyers, electronic newsletters, and an “I Support” sign. All materials were also made available online. Event appropriate print materials were made available at conferences, summits, public meetings, community conversations, and briefings (all listed below). Additional fliering was done at events in the region (e.g. ecological restoration work days, Cook County Forest Preserves Kid’s Fest, Wolf Lake Active Living Fair, etc.) and via face-to-face visits to businesses, manufactures, libraries, and municipal service buildings.






A CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA will put local pride into the national spotlight.

Here is a region like no other. Its people, industries, and nature combine to tell stories the whole country needs to hear. That's why the Calumet Heritage Partnership and The Field Museum are working to create a Calumet National Heritage Area, so that everyone here and around the country knows how special this place is.

Visit CalumetHeritage.org/heritage.html

- Learn about the project.
- Join our mailing list to receive event information and newsletters.
- Support the effort.

Questions? Email us at calumetheritage@calumetheritage.org


 Watch the 6-minute video
[Creating a Calumet National Heritage Area](#)
  [/calumetheritage](#)

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving and promoting the historic heritage of the Calumet region. The Field Museum is a partner of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Together, they lead the feasibility study to design the region as a Calumet National Heritage Area.




Calumet Heritage Partnership

The Field Museum

The Margaret Plan supports the 50-state effort of the Calumet Heritage Partnership to establish a Calumet National Heritage Area. The Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study is a priority project of the Western Water.

 Margaret Plan

The Field Museum gratefully acknowledges the following partners for their support of programs in the Calumet Region:

 AerialViewIt
  BOEING
  Nicolcor Gas

Have you met the Calumet?

2/13/2015

Correction: Tues 3:10 & Mon 3:16 - Industrial Heritage Community Conversations!

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Industrial Heritage in the Calumet Region Community Conversations

Current and former industrial workers, union members, historians, Calumet residents -- this gathering is for you!

The Calumet region has a rich and significant industrial heritage, serving as an economic engine for America for over a century. If you have worked or currently work in Calumet industry or have been influenced by it, come share your reflections on the region's industries, from steel mills to railroads to food processing. How do you connect with Calumet's industrial heritage? How is it relevant today? We are interested in hearing your take on the unique nature of the Calumet region, its contributions to industrial America, and the ways you would like this heritage represented in a future Calumet National Heritage Area.

Attend one or both events*

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

5:30-7:30 pm

Porter County Public Library
2665 Irving St.
Portage, IN 46368

Monday, March 16, 2015

5:30-7:30 pm

Vodak-East Side Branch
Chicago Public Library
3710 East 106th Street
Chicago, IL 60617

About a Calumet National Heritage Area


Across the country, National Heritage Area designations have helped benefit local communities and landscapes. This set of industrial heritage conversations are the next in a series of community discussions about the potential for creating a heritage area for the Calumet region. In the coming months, residents, organizations, and businesses will be asked to share their visions of how the region's heritage can help to build its future. Hosted by The Field Museum in collaboration with the Calumet Heritage Partnership, these conversations will contribute to a feasibility study for a Calumet National Heritage Area in Northeast Illinois and Northwest Indiana. Future topics will include the region's environmental, cultural, and recreational resources.

** All are welcome at both events, but you do not need to attend both for your voice to be heard!*

To RSVP or for more information, contact Madeleine Tudor:

https://us.constantcontact.com/visualEditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agentId=1120091303784&formId=1&groupId=1&name=true

1/2



Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative

CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE NO. 6

Welcome to the sixth issue of the **Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study Update**. This newsletter provides updates on the progress of a Feasibility Study to establish a Calumet National Heritage Area. Additionally, it helps identify ways in which you can participate in the study process, and keep you abreast on related activities in the Calumet region. For further information about the Feasibility Study and the Calumet Heritage Partnership visit the [CHP website](#).

The [Calumet Heritage Partnership](#), and [The Field Museum](#), together are leading the ongoing effort to create a Calumet National Heritage Area. What is a National Heritage Area? What can a National Heritage Area do for our region? Watch this 6-minute video titled *Creating a Calumet National Heritage Area* to find out!

Help Us Spread the Word

We are committed to increasing public awareness and participation in the feasibility study process to create a Calumet National Heritage Area – but we could use a little help from our friends.

We are very excited about this effort. And you should be too! Please consider joining our campaign by helping us with any or all of the following:

- Share this [Video](#) at your next community meeting
- Invite us to speak at an upcoming event - complete [Online Form](#)
- Like us on [Facebook](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter](#)
- Forward this email to others in your network that might be interested in learning more about the Calumet NHA Initiative

Next Steps


The final round of public comments will take place in June/July. Drafted themes, boundary, resources and management structure will be presented to the public. Dates, times and locations TBD. The feasibility study will be submitted to the National Park Service for review this Summer. Upon recommendation from the National Park Service, it is our hope that the bill to designate the Calumet region a National Heritage Area be introduced into legislation come Fall 2016.

For more information about the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative visit [Calumet Heritage Partnership's Website](#)

AROUND THE REGION


Industrial Heritage Exhibition

The Partnership kicked off its 2016 Event Series of **Calumet's Industrial Heritage Exhibition**. Dozens came out to admire the work of two local artists, Cathryn and Matthew Kaplan, who shared their paintings and photographs that capture the unique beauty of the industrial landscape. The artist reception was held at South Shore Art Center No. 9 in Hammond. Did you miss the art exhibit? We will be traveling to another South Shore Arts location for community engagement events for teachers, youth and the local community! Keep up to date on the event series by visiting [Calumet's Website](#).



Regional Heritage

May 19th marked the first "holiday" celebration for the region as "219 day", named after Northwest Indiana's area code. The event was held at the Hammond Civic Center drawing thousands of people. The event featured local foods as well as White Castle stand up comedy, beer from 18th Street Brewery, 3 Floyds Brewing, and Byway Brewing, and of course giant Region 9 was overall a success and exemplified #regionpride! For more events visit [City of Hammond's Events Page](#).



Maya McDermott and CHP Vice President Sherry Meyer

Lakeshore

Region's history with steel - for better and for worse. [Public Radio's Steel on the Lakeshore](#) stories updates on the struggling industry, and what the future holds for the once dominant industry in Northwest Indiana.

Read more about [Steel on the Lakeshore: Their Lives and Views - Listen Here](#)
[A Hard Time in the Mills - Listen Here](#)

For a complete list of programs visit [Lakeshore Public Media](#)




Photo Credit: Larry A. Brechmer Photography

I support the Calumet National Heritage Area



Find us on   /calumetheritage

 search *Creating a Calumet National Heritage Area*

www.calumetheritage.org

calumetheritage@calumetheritage.org

Media Outreach

Feasibility study updates and press releases were distributed to 187 media outlets throughout the duration of this effort resulting in multiple radio and television appearances, newspaper articles, online news stories and social media highlights. A photo from an interview with *Lakeshore Public Television* and two newspaper articles that materialized from this media outreach are highlighted below. For a complete list of Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative media coverage visit <http://www.calumetheritage.org/heritage.html>.



Calumet Heritage Area promoters say 'now is the moment'

Andrew Steele andrew.steele@nwi.com, (219) 933-3241 Nov 1, 2016

Andrew Steele, The Times

Mark Bowman, president of the Calumet Heritage Partnership and director of the Chicago Region Program at The Field Museum, updates partnership members and supporters Saturday on the project to create a Calumet National Heritage Area. The partnership held its annual meeting at Lake Eliza County Park in Gary.

GARY — The south shore of Lake Michigan is well-known for the dramatic contrast between its pristine shoreline and man-made industry, and as home to a multitude of plant life that makes it an ecological meeting point of similar drama.



Added to that is the rich diversity of the Calumet Region's residents, the result of waves of migration that built a population totaling about 1.5 million, spread between two states and among 71 municipalities.

These apparently disparate elements combine to equal more than the sum of the parts, in the view of a group that's spent years putting together a proposal to create a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet Region has a common history, culture and economy, and a heritage area "is

Calumet Region could get national designation

By Christin Nance Lazarus

Press Tribune

FEBRUARY 15, 2016

The Calumet Region in Indiana and Illinois has been home to heavy industry, sand dune landscapes and a cultural melting pot for more than a century, and there is an effort afoot to link those unique qualities into a National Heritage Area.

The designation wouldn't result in any land acquisition or control, but it would help link both public and private sites across the region, such as parks, cultural festivals and museums.

"A national heritage area is not the taking of land," said Field Museum Chicago Region Program Director Mark Bowman. "It's a way to think about the landscape in general and shine a light on it."

Bowman gave a presentation on the proposed heritage area at Thursday's meeting of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

In order to get Congressional approval, National Heritage Areas must have nationally distinctive natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources that help tell a nationally important story. There are currently 49 National Heritage Areas, including two in Illinois — the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area and the Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor.

President Barack Obama established the Pullman National Monument last spring, and Bowman said it now serves as a second anchor for the proposed heritage area alongside the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2016.

Bowman said the designation can have benefits including spurring conservation efforts and economic development opportunities near the area. Bowman is encouraged about the project's future, as it was mentioned in Rep. Pete Visclosky's 2015 Marquette Plan.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is currently conducting a feasibility study to determine what is national significant about the area. Some of the sites included in the study include the historic Marktown neighborhood in East Chicago, Pierogi Fest in Whiting, Wolf Lake, U.S. Steel in Gary, and the Indiana Dunes.

"We want to know how much support there is," Bowman said. "There's the diversity and the juxtaposition of industry, people and environment here that you see coming together nowhere else in the country. And the solutions that have happened over time, like half billion spent on the Grand Calumet River for restoration. It

This appendix is divided into three tables:

A. Key Resources: Resources that directly support the proposed National Heritage Area themes, or resources that are essential in combination with others to tell the national and regional story of the themes.

B. Archives, Museums, and Interpretive Centers: The organizations in the region where detailed or comprehensive heritage knowledge is curated for scholarly or public benefit; includes historical societies with collections and archives, as well as those with few material assets but which have knowledgeable members. The organizations on this list will be essential partners in telling the heritage story of the Calumet region.

C. Events and Festivals: A partial list of recurring events or festivals, as of Fall 2016, which draw thematically on regional heritage.

A. Key Resources

Number	Resource Type*	Resource Name	City	State	County	Theme 1 - Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape	Theme 2 - Innovation and Change for Industries and Workers	Theme 3 - Crucible of Working Class and Ethnic Cultures	National Historic Landmark
1	OD	106th Street Bridge	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
2	Rec., CL, HD	91st and Commercial "Heart and Soul" Street	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
3	IR, HS, CL	95th Street Bridge	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
4	IR	ACME Steel Company	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
5	HS	Agudath Achim-Bikur Cholim Synagogue	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
6	HS	Altgeld Gardens	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X	X	
7	NPG, Rec.	Ambler Flatwoods	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X			
8	IR, HS, CL	American Bridge Works	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X		
9	HS	American Sheet and Tin Mill Apartment Building	Gary	IN	Lake		X	X	
10	HS, CL	American Slovak Club Inc	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
11	HS, MS	American State Bank Building	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
12	NRO, HE	Annunciata Fest	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
13	HD, IR	ArcelorMittal, Burns Harbor	Burns Harbor	IN	Porter	X	X		
14	HS, CL, IR	ArcelorMittal, Indiana Harbor	East Chicago	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
15	HD, IR	ArcelorMittal, Riverdale	Riverdale	IL	Cook	X	X		
16	CL, HS	Bamboo Lounge	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
17	HS, CL	Barney Sablotny House	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	

* See end of Appendix C for list of abbreviations.

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
18	CL, AS	Baum's Bridge Archaeological Sites and Collier Hunting Lodge	Kouts	IN	Porter	X			
19	NPG, Rec.	Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
20	Rec., HS	Bessemer Park Field House	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
21	HD	Beverly Shores Century of Progress Architectural Historic District	IDNL, Beverly Shores	IN	Porter	X	X	X	X
22	Rec., NF, HS	Beverly Shores South Shore RR Station	Beverly Shores	IN	Porter	X			
23	Rec., NPG	Big Marsh	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
24	IR, HS	Blue Bridge	Riverdale	IL	Cook	X	X		
25	IR, HS	Blue Island Lock and Dam	Blue Island	IL	Cook	X	X		
26	IR, HS, CL	British Petroleum Whiting Refinery	Whiting	IN	Lake	X	X		
27	Rec.	Burnham Greenway	Chicago to Lansing	IL	Cook	X			
28	NPG, OD	Burnham Prairie	Burnham	IL	Cook	X			
29	HS	Calumet Fisheries	Chicago	IL	Cook	X		X	
30	Rec., IR	Calumet Harbor and River	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
31	HS, HD, HR, CL, Rec.	Calumet Park and Field House	Chicago	IL	Cook	X		X	
32	AMI	Calumet Regional Archives	Gary	IN	Lake		X	X	
33	IR, HS	Calumet-Sag Channel Bridges and Double Diamond	Blue Island	IL	Cook	X		X	
34	IR, OD, NRO	Calumet-Saganashkee Channel	Starts Blue Island	IL	Cook	X			
35	IR	Cargill Inc.	Whiting	IN	Lake		X		
36	AMI	Carter G. Woodson Regional Public Library	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
37	CL, HS	Cathedral of the Holy Angels	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
38	HS, IR	Chicago, South Shore, and South Bend RR Station	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte			X	
39	HS, CL	Childhood Home of Michael Jackson	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
40	HS, CL	City United Methodist Church	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	
41	NRO	Clark and Pine Dune and Swale	Gary	IN	Lake	X			
42	HR, NPG, NP	Cowles Bog	Chesterton	IN	Porter	X			
43	HD	Crown Point Courthouse Square Historic District	Crown Point	IN	Lake			X	
44	NPG	Dan Ryan Woods	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
45	HR	Dixie Highway	multiple	IL	Cook		X	X	
46	NPG	Dolton Prairie	Calumet City	IL	Cook	X			

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
47	HS, Rec., CL	Dune Acres Clubhouse	Dune Acres	IN	Porter	X		X	
48	NPP	DuPont Natural Area	East Chicago	IN	Lake	X			
49	HD	Edison Concept Homes (cottages)	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
50	HD	Edison Concept Homes (row houses)	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
51	NPG	Eggers Woods Forest Preserve	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
52	HS, CL	First Unitarian Church of Hobart	Hobart	IN	Lake			X	
53	HD	Ford Airport Hanger	Lansing	IL	Cook		X	X	
54	Rec.	Forsythe Park and Wolf Lake Channel	Hammond	IN	Lake	X		X	
55	HD	Franklin Street Commercial Historic District	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X	X		
56	HD	Gary City Center Historic District	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
57	HS	Gary Land Company Building	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X		X
58	NPG, SP	Gibson Woods	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
59	HS, CL	Genesis Towers	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
60	NRO	Grand Calumet Restoration (Roxanna Marsh & Tern Site)	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
61	Rec.	Grand Illinois Trail	multiple	IL	Cook	X		X	
62	NPG, Rec.	Grand Kankakee Marsh County Park	Hebron	IN	Porter	X			
63	HS, CL	Great Lakes Café	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
64	AMI	Griffith Historical Park and Depot Museum	Griffith	IN	Lake		X		
65	NPG	Hammond Lakefront Park and Bird Sanctuary	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
66	AMI	Hammond Public Library (Suzanne G. Long Local History Room)	Hammond	IN	Lake		X	X	
67	HD	Haskell and Barker Historic District	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X	X	X	
68	AMI, IR	Hesston Steam Museum	Hesston	IN	LaPorte		X	X	
69	HD, CL, HS, NRO	Historic Butternut Tree in Riverdale	Riverdale	IL	Cook	X			
70	HS, MS	Historic Pullman Foundation	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
71	NPG	Hoosier Prairie State Nature Preserve	Schererville	IN	Lake	X			
72	HD	Horace Mann Historic District	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
73	AS	Hoxie Site	Thornton	IL	Cook	X			
74	HS, CL	Immaculate Conception Church	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
75	CL	Indian Boundary Line	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
76	NRO	Indian Boundary Prairies	Markham	IL	Cook	X			

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
77	NRO	Indian Ridge Marsh North	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
78	NPG, IR	Indian Ridge Marsh South	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
79	NWR, NP, Rec.	Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore	multiple	IN	Porter	X	X		
80	HD	Indiana Dunes Pavilion and Beach House	Westchester Township	IN	Porter	X		X	X
81	SP, NPG	Indiana Dunes State Park and Dunes Nature Preserve	Chesterton	IN	Porter	X		X	
82	NRO, SP	Ivanhoe Dune and Swale	Gary	IN	Lake	X			
83	SP, NRO	Ivanhoe South	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	
84	HS, AMI	John H. Barker Mansion	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X	X	X	
85	HS	Joseph Bailly Homestead and Cemetery	IN Dunes Nat Lakeshore	IN	Porter	X		X	
86	Rec., IR, NRO, SP	Kankakee River	multiple	IL, IN	multiple	X			
87	Rec., NPG	Kickapoo Woods	Riverdale	IL	Cook	X			
88	NPG	Kingsbury Fish and Wildlife Area	La Porte	IN	LaPorte	X			
89	IR, HS	Kingsbury Industrial Park	Kingsbury	IN	LaPorte	X	X		
90	NRO	Lake Calumet	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
91	NRO, Rec.	Lake George	Hobart	IN	Lake	X			
92	Rec., CL, NRO	Lake George and George Lake Woods	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
93	Rec., CL, HS, NRO	Lake Michigan	multiple	IL, IN	all	X	X	X	
94	HS, IR	Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway, Bridge No. 6	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
95	Rec., NRO	LaPorte Chain of Lakes	La Porte	IN	LaPorte	X			
96	AMI	LaPorte County Historical Society Museum	LaPorte	IN	LaPorte		X	X	
97	HR, CL	Lincoln Highway (Ideal Section)	Schererville, Dyer	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
98	NPG, Rec.	Little Calumet Headwaters Nature Preserve	LaPorte	IN	LaPorte	X			
99	HS, NRO, IR, Rec.	Little Calumet River	multiple	IN	all	X			
100	NPP	Little Calumet Wetlands	Chesterton	IN	Porter	X			
101	NRO, Rec.	Lost Marsh Golf Course	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
102	HS, IR, AMI	Louis J. Bailey Branch Library and Gary International Institute	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
103	HS	Mahencha Apartment Building	Gary	IN	Lake		X	X	
104	Rec.	Major Taylor Trail	Chicago	IL	Cook	X		X	
105	CL, IR, HS, NPG	Marian R. Byrnes Natural Area	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
106	HS, MS	Market Square Building	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
107	NWR, NPG	Markham Prairie	Markham	IL	Cook	X			
108	HD	Marktown Historic District	Indiana Harbor	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
109	Rec., CL	Marquette Greenway	multiple	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
110	HS, CL	Marquette Park and Pavilion (Gary Bathing Beach Aquatorium, Miller Beach and Chanute Hill)	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	X
111	MS, CL	Marshall J. Gardner Center for the Arts	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
112	IR, HS	McGill Manufacturing Company Inc.	Valparaiso	IN	Porter	X			
113	HS, NPP	Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Preserve	Valparaiso	IN	Porter	X			
114	HS, CL	Memorial Community House	Whiting	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
115	CL, HS, MM	Memorial Day Massacre Site and Memorial	Chicago	IL	Cook		X		
116	IR	Method Soap and Gotham Greens Facility	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X	X	
117	HS, IR	Michigan Avenue Rail Yard	East Chicago	IN	Lake		X		
118	HS, IR, Rec.	Michigan City East Pierhead Light Tower and Elevated Walk	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X	X		
119	AMI	Michigan City Old Lighthouse Museum	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X			
120	NRO, IR, HR	Michigan City Road	Calumet City	IL	Cook	X			
121	HR	Michigan Road State Historic Highway	multiple	IN	LaPorte	X	X	X	
122	HD, CL	Midtown Gary African American Historic District	Gary	IN	Lake		X	X	
123	CL	Miller Beach Arts and Creative District	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
124	HS	Miller Town Hall	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	X
125	HS, CL	Monon Park Dance Hall	Cedar Lake	IN	Lake	X	X		
126	NPP, Rec.	Moraine Nature Preserve	Valparaiso	IN	Porter	X			
127	CL	Mural: "South Chicago: We all come together as one"	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
128	AMI	National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
129	HS	Nelson Algren's Cottage	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
130	HS	Nike Missile Site C-47	Portage Township	IN	Porter	X			
131	IR	NIPSCO - Bailly Generating Station	Chesterton	IN	Porter	X		X	
132	HS	North Gleason Park Pavillion	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
133	Rec., MS	Oil City Stadium	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
134	MS, HD	Old Western Avenue	Blue Island	IL	Cook		X	X	

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
135	HE, CL	Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
136	HD	Pacesetter Gardens Historic District	Riverdale	IL	Cook			X	
137	CL	Park Forest Planned Community	Park Forest	IL	Cook			X	
138	AMI	Paul H. Douglas Center For Environmental Education	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	
139	CL, HS	Paul Henry's Gallery	Hammond	IN	Lake			X	
140	HS	Pennsylvania RR Station	Hobart	IN	Lake	X	X		
141	CL, MS	Pierogi Fest	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
142	HS, CL	Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
143	NWR	Pinhook Bog	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X			
144	CL, HS	Pinhook Methodist Church and Cemetery	New Durham Township	IN	LaPorte	X		X	
145	OD	Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne, and Chicago Railway and Calumet River Bridge	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
146	HS	Polish Army Veterans Post No. 40	Crown Point	IN	Lake			X	
147	CL, NRO	Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk	Portage	IN	Porter	X	X		
148	AMI, HS	Porter County Museum of History	Valparaiso	IN	Porter	X	X	X	
149	NPG	Powderhorn Lake Forest Preserve	Burnham, Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
150	HS	Power Circle Center/Formers Union Hall	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
151	CL	Pride of East Side/Blues Brothers Mural	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
152	HS, CL	Pullman Greenstone Church	Chicago	IL	Cook		X		
153	NP	Pullman National Monument	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X	X	
154	IR	Pullman Plant	Hammond	IN	Lake		X	X	
155	Rec., NRO, HS	Rainbow Beach	Chicago	IL	Cook	X		X	
156	HS	Ralph Waldo Emerson School	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
157	Rec., NPG	Red Mill County Park	LaPorte	IN	LaPorte	X			
158	HS, CL	Reformation Lutheran Church	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
159	HS	Riverdale Original Fire House	Riverdale	IL	Cook			X	
160	NRO, IR	Riverdale Quarry/Clay Pit Lake	Dolton	IL	Cook	X			
161	HS, CL	Roosevelt High School	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
162	OD	Rumely Companies' Agricultural Products	La Porte	IN	LaPorte	X	X		
163	HS, CL	Sacred Heart Church	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
164	NPG, OD	Sand Ridge Nature Preserve	South Holland	IL	Cook	X			
165	NRO, Rec.	Saugany Lake	Birchlim	IN	LaPorte				

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
166	HS, HR, IR, CL	Sauk Trail	multiple	IL	all	X			
167	NRO	Seidner Dune and Swale Preserve	Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
168	Rec., CL	Serbian Social Center	Lansing	IL	Cook			X	
169	AMI, CL, MU	South Shore Arts	Munster	IN	Lake			X	
170	HS	South Chicago Bank Building (former)	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
171	Rec.	South Chicago People's Park	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
172	HE	South Side Irish Parade	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
173	HS, AMI	Southeast Chicago Historical Society	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
174	CL, NRO	Southeast Environmental Task Force (Eco-Tours)	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
175	NPG, Rec.	Springfield Fen	LaPorte	IN	LaPorte	X			
176	CL	St. Ann of the Dunes Roman Catholic Church	Beverly Shores	IN	Porter			X	
177	CL	St. Anthony of Padua	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
178	HS, CL	St. Augustine's Episcopal Church	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
179	HE	St. Donatus Festival	Blue Island	IL	Cook			X	
180	CL, HS	St. Francis de Sales High School	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
181	HS, CL	St. John the Baptist Catholic Church	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
182	HS	St. John's Hospital	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
183	HS, CL	St. John's Lutheran Church	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
184	HS, CL	St. Mary of the Lake	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
185	HS, CL	St. Michael the Archangel Church	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
186	CL, HS	St. Michael the Archangel Serbian Orthodox Church	Lansing	IL	Cook			X	
187	CL	St. Philip Lutheran Church	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
188	CL, HS	St. Simeon Mirotočivi Serbian Orthodox Church	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
189	HS	State Bank of Hammond Building	Hammond	IN	Lake	X		X	
190	IR, HS, CL	State Line Generating Plant Gate	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
191	HD	State St. Commercial Historic District	Hammond	IN	Lake	X		X	
192	CL	Steel Mill Quarter	Gary	IN	Lake		X	X	
193	CL, Rec.	Steelworkers' Park	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
194	CL, AMI	Stewart House	Gary	IN	Lake	X		X	
195	HS, CL	Stony Island	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
196	CL, HS	Streamside Elevated Pool Aeration Station (SEPA)	Blue Island	IL	Cook	X	X	X	
197	Rec., NPP	Taltree Arboretum and Gardens	Valparaiso	IN	Porter	X			

A. Key Resources (continued)

No.	Type	Name	City	State	County	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	NHL
198	NPP	The Bartel Grasslands	Tinley Park	IL	Cook	X			
199	HS	The Dunbar House	Chicago	IL	Cook		X	X	
200	IR	Thomas J. O'Brien Lock and Control Works	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
201	NPP, OD	Thornton Fractional North High School Prairie	Calumet City	IL	Cook	X			
202	IR, OD	Thornton Quarry	Thornton	IL	Cook	X	X		
203	NPG, NP	Tolleston Ridges	Gary, Hammond	IN	Lake	X			
204	HS, CL	Towle Theater	Hammond	IN	Lake	X		X	
205	Rec.	Trail Creek Fen	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte	X			
206	HS, CL	Trumbull Park Homes	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
207	HD, CL, IR	U.S. Steel Worker's Housing Historic District	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
208	IR	Unilever Home and Personal Care Plant	Hammond	IN	Lake		X		
209	MS, HD	Uptown Arts District	Michigan City	IN	LaPorte			X	
210	Rec.	US Bike Route 35	La Porte	IN	LaPorte	X			
211	Rec.	US Bike Route 36	multiple	IL, IN	all	X			
212	HS, OD	US Coastguard Station	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
213	CL, IR	US Steel Gary Works	Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
214	Rec., HS, IR	US Steel South Works	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X	X	
215	MM	Veterans' Memorial	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
216	CL	Vietnam Veteran's Mural	Chicago	IL	Cook			X	
217	MS	View to North on Cline Avenue (industrial viewscape)	East Chicago, Gary	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
218	CL, NRO, OD	Vincennes Trace	multiple	IL	Cook	X			
219	CL, HS	Von Zirngibl Gravesite	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			
220	NPG, Rec.	Wampum Lake Woods and Thornton-Lansing Road Nature Preserve	Lansing	IL	Cook	X			
221	NPG, OD	Wentworth Prairie and Woods	Calumet City	IL	Cook	X			
222	HD	West 5th Avenue Apartments Historic District	Gary	IN	Lake			X	
223	HS	Whiting City Hall	Whiting	IN	Lake			X	
224	CL, Rec.	Whiting Community Center	Whiting	IN	Lake		X	X	
225	IR, SP	William W. Powers State Recreation Area	Chicago	IL	Cook	X	X		
226	Rec., NRO, IR	Wolf Lake Memorial Park and Pavillion	Hammond	IN	Lake	X	X	X	
227	CL, HS, MM	Wolf Lake Nike Site	Chicago	IL	Cook	X			

B. Archives, Museums, Interpretive Centers

Number	Resource Name	County	State
1	Alton Goin Museum (Portage Historical Society)	Porter	IN
2	Beecher Historical Society Museum (C & El Train Station)	Will	IL
3	Blue Island Historical Society	Cook	IL
4	Blue Island History Museum (Blue Island Public Library)	Cook	IL
5	Brauer Art Museum	Porter	IN
6	Calumet City Historical Society	Cook	IL
7	Calumet Environment Resources Center (CERC) (Chicago State University)	Cook	IL
8	Calumet Regional Archives (Indiana University Northwest)	Lake	IN
9	Carter G. Woodson Regional Public Library (Vivian Harsh Research Collection)	Cook	IL
10	Dorband Howe House Museum (Homewood Historical Society)	Cook	IL
11	Dyer Historical Society	Lake	IN
12	Griffith Historical Park and Depot Museum	Lake	IN
13	Hammond Public Library (Suzanne G. Long Local History Room)	Lake	IN
14	Heritage Cabin (Veterans Park, Calumet City)	Cook	IL
15	Hesston Steam Museum	LaPorte	IN
16	Hobart Carnegie Library	Lake	IN
17	Hour Glass Museum (Ogden Dunes Historical Society)	Porter	IN
18	Indiana Harbor Public Library	Porter	IN
19	John H. Barker Mansion	LaPorte	IN
20	Joseph Bailly Homestead and Cemetery	Porter	IN
21	Lake of the Red Cedars Museum (Cedar Lake Historical Society)	Lake	IN
22	LaPorte County Historical Society Museum	LaPorte	IN
23	Little Red Schoolhouse (Hessville Historical Society)	Lake	IN
24	Lubeznik Center for the Arts	LaPorte	IN
25	Luhr Park Nature Center	LaPorte	IN
26	Merrillville-Ross Township Historical Museum	Lake	IN
27	Michigan City Old Lighthouse Museum	LaPorte	IN
28	National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum	Cook	IL
29	Paul H. Douglas Center For Environmental Education	Lake	IN
30	Plum Creek Nature Center	Cook	IL
31	Porter County Museum of History	Porter	IN
32	Pullman National Monument Information Center	Cook	IL
33	Pullman State Historic Site Archives	Cook	IL
34	Ridge Historical Society	Cook	IL
35	Riverdale Historical Society	Cook	IL
36	Sand Ridge Nature Center	Cook	IL
37	Schererville Historical Society	Lake	IN

B. Archives, Museums, Interpretive Centers (continued)

Number	Resource Name	County	State
38	South Shore Arts	Lake	IN
39	South Shore Cultural Center	Cook	IL
40	South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society	Cook	IL
41	Southeast Chicago Historical Society	Cook	IL
42	St. John's Historical Society	Lake	IN
43	Stagecoach Inn and Panhandle Depot Museum	Porter	IN
44	Stewart House	Lake	IN
45	Thornton Historical Society Museum	Cook	IL
46	Wilhelmina Stallbohm Kaske House and Barn	Lake	IN

C. Events and Festivals

Number	Event/Festival Name	State	County
1	"A Christmas Story" Comes Home Celebration	IN	Lake
2	Annual East Side Community Day	IL	Cook
3	Annunciata Fest	IL	Cook
4	Beaubien Woods Celebration Day	IL	Cook
5	Blue Island Historical House Walk	IL	Cook
6	Calumet Heritage Conference	both	multiple
7	Calumet Outdoor Series (guided hikes)	IL	Cook
8	Century of Progress Homes Tour	IN	Porter
9	Chesterton European Market	IN	Porter
10	Cook County Forest Preserve Kids' Fest	IL	Cook
11	Drivin' The Dixie Tours	IL	Cook
12	Earth Day Celebration (Sand Ridge Nature Center)	IL	Cook
13	Eggers Grove, Nature Block Party	IL	Cook
14	Festival of the Lakes	IN	Lake
15	First Fridays Art Walks	IN	LaPorte
16	Garage Mahal	IN	Lake
17	Green Gary Festival	IN	Lake
18	Greening of the Arts	IN	Lake
19	Hammond Art Tour	IN	Lake
20	Historic Pullman House Tour	IL	Cook

C. Events and Festivals (continued)

No.	Name	State	County
21	Holiday Light Parade	IL	Cook
22	Illinois Archaeology Day	IL	Cook
23	Lake County Fair	IN	Lake
24	Little Calumet River Cleanup at Kickapoo Woods	IL	Cook
25	Little Calumet River Festival	IN	Lake
26	Major Taylor Trail (cycling events)	IL	Cook
27	Maple Sugar Time	IN	Porter
28	Memorial Day Massacre Remembrance	IL	Cook
29	Miller Beach Arts and Creative District (arts events)	IN	Lake
30	Miller Beach Farmers Market	IN	Lake
31	Miller Garden Club, Annual Walk	IN	Lake
32	New Year's "Rock around the Clock"	IL	Cook
33	Northwest Indiana Earth Day	IN	Porter
34	Paul Henry's Art Gallery (arts events)	IN	Lake
35	Pierogi Fest	IN	Lake
36	Popcorn Festival	IN	Porter
37	Powder Horn Lake Teen Fest	IL	Cook
38	Pullman Farmers Market at Arcade Park	IL	Cook
39	Rainbow Beach (restoration workdays)	IL	Cook
40	Ship and Shore Blues Festival	IN	LaPorte
41	South Chicago People's Park	IL	Cook
42	South Holland Memorial Day Parade	IL	Cook
43	South Side Irish Parade	IL	Cook
44	Southeast Side Summerfest	IL	Cook
45	St. Donatus Festival	IL	Cook
46	Toxics to Treasures Tours	IL	Cook
47	Tribute to Jean Shepard	IN	Lake
48	Winter Wonderland at Wolf Lake Festival	IN	Lake
49	Wolf Lake Active Living Fair	both	Cook and Lake

“Resource Type” Abbreviations:

AMI	Archive, Museum, or Interpretive Center
AS	Archaeological Site
CL	Cultural Landscape
HD	Historical District
HE	Heritage Event
HR	Historic Road
HS	Historic Site
IR	Industrial Resource
MM	Monuments and Memorials
MS	Main Street Program
MU	Museum
NB	National Battlefield
NF	National Forest (Grassland, etc.)
NHL	National Historic Landmark
NP	National Park
NPG	Nature Preserve - Government
NPP	Nature Preserve – Private
NRO	Natural Resource Other
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
Rec.	Recreation Area
SP	State Park
OD	Other Designations
SWR	State Wildlife Refuge

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[Alliance for the Great Lakes](https://greatlakes.org)

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[Calumet Area Industrial Commission](http://calumetareaindustrial.com)

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[Calumet Stewardship Initiative \(CSI\)](http://calumetstewardship.org)

<http://calumetstewardship.org>

[Centro Comunitario Juan Diego](http://ccjuandiego.org/)

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[Chicago Community Trust](http://www.cct.org)

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[Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning \(CMAP\)](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/)

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[Chicago Park District](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

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[Friends of the Calumet-Sag Trail](http://www.calsagtrail.org/about-us/)

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[Gary, Indiana – Midtown The Central District \(video\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzwR0KdiQNo)

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<http://gddf.org/land-conservation/chicago>

[Global Alliance of Artists](#)

<http://www.aex.globalallianceartists.org>

[Golden Apple Foundation](#)

<http://www.goldenapple.org>

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[Hoosier Environmental Council](#)

<http://www.hecweb.org>

[Hour Glass Museum](#)

<http://odhistory.org/3701/7901.html>

[Illinois Department of Natural Resources](#)

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[Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring Inventory \(NIRMI\)](#)

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[One Region](#)

<http://www.oneregionnwi.org>

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[Porter County Museum](#)

<http://pocomuse.org/>

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[Pullman National Monument](#)

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<http://www.heinzetrust.org>

[South Chicago Chamber of Commerce](#)

<http://www.southchicagochamber.org>

[South Shore Arts](#)

<http://www.southshoreartsonline.org>

[South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association \(SSMMA\)](#)

<http://ssmma.org>

[Southeast Chicago Historical Society](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/120664941289363/>

[Southeast Environmental Task Force \(SETF\)](#)

<http://setaskforce.org>

[Spotlighting Southeast Chicago](#)

<http://spotlightingsoutheastchicago.com/index.html>

[Taltree Arboretum and Gardens](#)

<http://www.taltree.org>

[Village of Riverdale Tree Commission](#)

<http://www.villageofriverdale.net/231/Tree-Commission>

[United States Forest Service](#)

<https://www.fs.fed.us/>

[United Urban Network Inc.](#)

<http://unitedurbannetwork.blogspot.com>

[Wild Ones Chapter 38](#)

<http://www.gw-wildones.org/home.html>

[Wildlife Habitat Council](#)

<http://www.wildlifehc.org>

The community engagement process followed in the heritage initiative, the structure and analysis of the alternatives, and the information included in this study is sufficient to address the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act at the appropriate time.

No National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) pathway was selected for the current study for two reasons. First, guidance regarding NEPA for emerging and existing National Heritage Areas is currently under revision, and there is no uniform direction for application of NEPA to National Heritage Area feasibility studies at this time. Second, based on precedent, the current study aligns with one of the categories that could qualify as a Categorical Exclusion under NPS Director's Order 12—"Legislative proposal of an administrative or technical nature, for example...proposals that would have primarily economic, social, individual or institutional effects." (DO-12 Handbook, NPS 2005). If and when a NEPA pathway becomes necessary for this planning phase, a Categorical Exclusion would be sought.

If Congress creates the *Calumet National Heritage Area*, then a comprehensive management plan would be developed for the region. Depending on the types of projects, programs, and other actions proposed in that plan—and later in the implementation of that plan—additional consideration of the NEPA process will be required. If a National Heritage Area is established, it will comply with all applicable federal laws.

The Feasibility Study in its entirety describes the region's social and natural environment (see Appendix C). Now that a proposed boundary for the Calumet National Heritage Area has been established, it is possible to gather some key information at that scale.

The following table indicates the population boundary as of the 2010 U.S. Census.

Race	Percent	Pop Count
White alone, percent, April 1, 2010	46.82	777,570
Black or African American alone, percent, April 1, 2010	44.83	744,581
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, April 1, 2010	0.32	5,336
Asian alone, percent, April 1, 2010	0.79	13,103
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, April 1, 2010	0.02	386
Other, percent, April 1, 2010	5.18	86,050
Two or More Races, percent, April 1, 2010	2.04	33,878
Total:	100.00	1,660,904
Hispanic or Latino, percent, April 1, 2010	13.07	217,022

The region's protected land encompasses 61,000 acres.

Number of Threatened and Endangered Species by County

	FEDERAL				STATE		
	Threatened	Endangered	Candidate	Proposed Endangered	Threatened	Endangered	Watch
Cook Co., IL	6	3	1	1	52	76	
Lake Co., IN	6	6	0	1	86	92	19
LaPorte Co., IN	3	3	0	0	62	86	17
Porter Co., IN	3	5	0	0	76	93	15
TOTAL	18	17	1	2	276	347	51

Source: Illinois Department of Natural Resources; Indiana Department of Natural Resources; U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species

GROUP	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS	COUNTY
Birds	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	Endangered	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN LaPorte Co., IN Porter Co., IL
	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Red knot	Threatened	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN
Flowering Plants	<i>Asclepias meadii</i>	Mead's milkweed	Threatened	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN
	<i>Dalea foliosa</i>	Leafy prairie-clover	Endangered	Cook Co., IL
	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	Prairie bush-clover	Threatened	Cook Co., IL
	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	Eastern prairie fringed orchid	Threatened	Cook Co., IL
	<i>Cirsium pitcheri</i>	Pitcher's thistle	Threatened	Lake Co., IN Porter Co., IN
	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	Prairie White-fringed Orchid	Threatened	Lake Co., IN LaPorte Co., IN
Insects	<i>Somatochlora hineana</i>	Hine's emerald dragonfly	Endangered	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN
	<i>Papaipema eryngii</i>	Rattlesnake-master borer moth	Candidate	Cook Co., IL
	<i>Bombus affinis</i>	Rusty patched bumble bee	Proposed Endangered	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN
	<i>Lycaeides melissa samuelis</i>	Karner blue butterfly	Endangered	Lake Co., IN Porter Co., IN
	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	Endangered	Lake Co., IN Porter Co., IN
	<i>Neonympha mitchellii mitchellii</i>	Mitchell's satyr butterfly	Endangered	LaPorte Co., IN
Mammals	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern long-eared bat	Threatened	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN LaPorte Co., IN Porter Co., IN
	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Indiana bat	Endangered	Lake Co., IN LaPorte Co., IN Porter Co., IN
Mollusks	<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>	Sheepnose	Endangered	Lake Co., IN Porter Co., IN
Reptiles	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Eastern massasauga (rattlesnake)	Threatened	Cook Co., IL Lake Co., IN LaPorte Co., IN Porter Co., IN

Calumet Summit Report (2013)

<http://calumetstewardship.org/sites/default/files/cal-summit-2013/Calumet-Summit-2013-Report-Edited-Final.pdf>

At the 2013 *Calumet Summit: Connecting for Action*, attendees named the creation of the Calumet National Heritage Area as their top “big idea” for the region. The Calumet Summit Report serves as a comprehensive outline of the Summit, and includes the meeting’s agenda, basic demographic information about those who were in attendance, an overview of attendees’ reactions to each presentation, and collectively-determined goals and priorities for the future of the Calumet region.

Calumet Summit Report (2015)

<http://www.calumetheritage.org/region/2015CalumetSummitReport.pdf>

The 2015 *Calumet Summit: Advancing Our Shared Agenda* built on previous Summits, with participants identifying key themes, projects, and sites for future action. The Report describes the Summit’s four broad focus areas: environment, recreation, stewardship, and regional identity. The report includes a brief history of previous Summits, accomplishments in the Calumet region since 2013, an outline of goals and recommendations from experts and participants of the Summit, and summaries of the dialogue that took place. The Summit was a key resource for the Feasibility Study effort, as it worked to identify key regional themes and resources for a National Heritage Area.

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) GO TO 2040 Plan (2010; Updated in 2014)

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/2040>

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the official regional planning organization for Northeastern Illinois, has developed the GO TO 2040 plan to address anticipated population growth in the Chicago metropolitan area and to plan for sustainable prosperity through the year 2040 and beyond. The plan details strategies that will help the region’s 284 communities address transportation, housing, economic development, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. These strategies are centered around four themes—Livable Communities, Human Capital, Efficient Governance, and Regional Mobility—and include plans to conserve water and energy, improve education and workforce development, reform state and local tax policy, and develop a more efficient public transit system. The Green Infrastructure Vision developed by Chicago Wilderness has been incorporated into the plan.

Chicago Wilderness Biodiversity Recovery Plan (1999)

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.chicagowilderness.org/resource/resmgr/Publications/biodiversity_recovery_plan.pdf

The twenty-year old Chicago Wilderness coalition includes more than 200 partners who work to protect, restore, maintain, and celebrate various aspects of the region’s natural inheritance, including crucial natural areas in the Chicago region. The *Chicago Wilderness Biodiversity Recovery Plan* outlines the steps necessary to protect and restore the natural communities in order to help preserve global biodiversity and enrich the quality of life for the citizens of the Chicago region. The plan is intended to provide a general direction for the future of Chicago’s wilderness, and to illustrate the types of actions that can be taken to conserve wildlife. It is not a set of mandates—instead, it should be thought of as a blueprint for action, a reference source for ideas, and a complement to the many other planning efforts that are currently guiding the region towards a better and more sustainable future.

The Future of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Report (2011)

<https://www.npca.org/resources/2344-the-future-of-indiana-dunes-national-lakeshore>

In 2011, the National Parks Conservation Association, in partnership with The Field Museum and Indiana University's Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands, presented a collection of suggested strategies to improve the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The ideas outlined in the report are centered around six core goals: garnering financial and community support, protecting the park's natural resources through effective management, improving the park's accessibility and navigability, promoting scientific research in the region, ensuring that the park has advocates in state and federal government, and fostering a deeper emotional connection between community members and the land. The report specifically suggests the creation of a Calumet National Heritage Area as a means to connect the region's fragmented natural, historical, and cultural resources and to integrate the park further into the life of the region.

Greenways + Blueways 2020 NW Indiana Plan (2020)

<http://www.nirpc.org/2040-plan/transportation/non-motorized/greenways-blueways/greenways-blueways-2020-plan>

The Greenways + Blueways 2020 Plan is an update and extension of the 2007 Greenways + Blueways Plan and the 2010 Ped & Pedal Plan. The report, created by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, outlines strategies to create new public walking trails (greenways) and paddling routes (blueways) in Northwest Indiana. It outlines the basic principles of trail design, evaluates the feasibility of creating specific routes, details the benefits and drawbacks of each proposed path, and discusses the benefits of such public recreational resources to the quality of life of local citizens, the community, and the environment.

Marquette Plan (2005; 2008; updated in 2015)

<http://www.nirpc.org/2040-plan/growth-conservation/marquette-plan>

The Marquette Plan is a collaborative effort by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, local municipalities, and Indiana Congressman Peter Visclosky, to revitalize and redevelop Northwest Indiana's Lake Michigan shoreline region. The first two phases of the Marquette Plan set the goal of increasing public access and redeveloping the region's urbanized coastal areas and created a vision that identified greenways for protecting and accessing the coastline ecosystem, with possible watertrails along the lakeshore. The 2015 update integrates the vision and strategies of these two earlier phases across the entire region. The Marquette Plan 2015 continues to emphasize the importance of Lake Michigan as the greatest natural asset of our region, and the need to increase public access to its shoreline. The plan prioritizes improving the physical, social, and economic connections throughout Northwest Indiana's lakefront communities, expanding and improving the region's trail and transportation infrastructure, and protecting the long term health of our environment and natural resources. The 2015 plan foregrounds regional projects presented as examples of comprehensive ways stakeholders are working together across jurisdictional lines to implement the vision of the Marquette Plan. The Calumet National Heritage Area is one of these regional projects.

Millennium Reserve Report (2014)

<http://www.millenniumreserve.org/globalassets/reports/steering-committee-report----detailed-version-2014-03.pdf>

<http://www.millenniumreserve.org/globalassets/reports/steering-committee-report-2014-03---printer-friendly.pdf>

<http://www.millenniumreserve.org/Priorities/>

The Millennium Reserve was established in 2011 by then Illinois Governor Pat Quinn. In 2013, he created the Millennium Reserve Steering Committee, a council of both public and private sector partners, and charged its members with the task of identifying specific projects of significance to the Millennium Reserve region and recommending policy initiatives to be pursued by the State of Illinois. In 2014, the Committee released a report listing 14 such “opportunities for action”—which included strong support for the Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study—with the ultimate goals of stimulating vigorous and sustainable economic growth, restoring and enhancing natural ecosystems, supporting healthy and prosperous communities and residents, and honoring the region’s cultural and industrial past. In 2016, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner issued a new executive order that encouraged partnerships with Indiana and laid the groundwork for the development of a bi-state collaboration.

Northwest Indiana Profile: 2012 Quality of Life Indicators Report (2012)

<http://www.oneregionnwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/OneRegion-IndicatorsReport-2012.pdf>

In 2012, the non-profit organization One Region released the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Indicators report to provide an objective assessment of conditions in ten categories considered to be leading indicators of the quality of life in Northwest Indiana, to identify and evaluate trends in each of these categories during the period from 2000 to 2010, and to stimulate dialogue and actions that address opportunities to enhance the quality of life. The report is structured around data collected throughout the Northwest Indiana region pertaining to the area’s people, economy, environment, transportation, education, health, public safety, housing, culture, and government. It compares this data with that of the past and highlights trends in each of the ten categories. In 2012, One Region reported that compared to past years, transportation and health declined, culture improved, and all other indicators remained steady.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (2011)

<http://www.nirpc.org/2040-plan>

With the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) has laid out an all-inclusive vision for the revitalization of Indiana’s Lake, Porter, and La Porte counties with four goals in mind: supporting urban reinvestment, ensuring environmental justice, protecting natural resources and minimizing impacts to environmental features, and integrating transportation and land use to improve mobility and job accessibility. It includes both a long-range regional transportation proposal and a comprehensive strategy for environmental conservation, sustainable economic growth, and land use. The plan focuses specifically on rejuvenating the region’s “core cities” along the shore of Lake Michigan, and promotes a vibrant, revitalized, accessible, and united Northwest Indiana community.

Positioning Pullman (2016)

<http://www.positioningpullman.org/assets/PositioningPullmanIdeasBook.pdf>

Two months after President Barack Obama signed the declaration creating the Pullman National Monument in February 2015, AIA Chicago and the National Parks Conservation Association conducted a three day community design workshop in Pullman, in order to start visioning what the designation would mean for the site and for the region. The “ideas book” that resulted from the workshop focuses on Park Experience, Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse, Access Connections, and Community Development.

**Calumet Heritage Partnership & Calumet Collaborative
Memorandum of Understanding on Becoming Joint Coordinating Entities
for the Calumet National Heritage Area**

This is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Calumet Heritage Partnership (CHP) and the Calumet Collaborative. These two organizations enter into this agreement with the immediate goal of collaborating to form a Calumet Heritage Area (CHA), and the long term goal of becoming joint coordinating entities for a proposed Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA).

Background:

Both organizations are bi-state non-profits, supporting the creation of a CNHA. CHP is coordinating a feasibility study to create the CNHA. A central requirement for the feasibility study is the need to identify one or more coordinating entities for the heritage area. CHP has a long history of successful advocacy for heritage in the Calumet region but as an all-volunteer organization currently faces capacity constraints that prevent it from assuming the role of sole coordinating entity. The Calumet Collaborative was created with the intent to create capacity to conduct regional-scale projects. CHP and the Calumet Collaborative offer complementary strengths as potential joint coordinating entities for a heritage area.

Regardless of when or whether the proposal to create a *national* heritage area succeeds, the organizations intend to pursue the creation of the CHA. The purpose of this MOU is to provide a framework governing collaboration among the two organizations in designing mechanisms to become joint coordinating entities for the CHA and interim coordinating entities for the CNHA.

MOU Goals:

CHP and the Calumet Collaborative, through a project team consisting of CHP's President and Vice-Presidents and the Calumet Collaborative's Board Chair and Program Manager, seek to reach a proposed formal relationship between the two organizations in principle by September 29, 2016, so that:

- CHP may incorporate this MOU into the Feasibility Study by October 31.
- The Calumet Collaborative may integrate within its emerging governing structure during Fall 2016 the principles listed below.
- CHP and the Calumet Collaborative can declare the formation of a Calumet Heritage Area at the annual Calumet Heritage Conference on October 29th, 2016 as coordinating partners.

Principles:

As much as possible, the following principles representing the roles and responsibilities of each organization are to be incorporated into the final feasibility study document.

General Roles and Division of Responsibilities:

Generally, CHP will serve as the “public face” of the heritage area. It will draw upon its existing intellectual capital, regional expertise, and volunteer resources of its members to plan, coordinate, and publicize the day-to-day activities of the heritage area and will work to achieve the long term priorities and goals outlined in the feasibility study. Generally, the Calumet Collaborative will support “back office” operations of the heritage area drawing upon the management expertise of its members. It will assume fiduciary responsibility for the heritage area. It will also design a financial sustainability model, secure financial capital for operations, and manage financial and human resources for the heritage area.

CHP's Roles and Responsibilities:

- o Provide oversight of CNHA program, ensuring alignment with statements of themes, national significance, resources, and geographic scope as defined in the feasibility study.
- o Convene an annual conference that brokers bi-state conversations wherever it is productive.
- o Assume the functions and coordinating role for the Calumet Stewardship Initiative collective.
- o Collaborate with the Calumet Collaborative to develop project ideas for regional redevelopment in concert with CHA/CNHA mission and themes.
- o Collaborate with regional partners to bring projects to fruition with roles and responsibilities to be clearly determined as projects evolve.

Calumet Collaborative's Roles and Responsibilities:

- o As an organization that represents regional agency, foundation, and non-profit leaders, design a financial sustainability model for the CNHA.
- o Provide staff to carry out the program outline for the CNHA.
- o Lead fundraising efforts and coordinate financial affairs and human resources on behalf of CNHA.
- o Design a governance structure such that CHP is integrated into the governance of the Calumet Collaborative.
- o Lead the development of regional-scale projects and incorporate heritage themes and methods in collaboration with CHP.
- o Collaborate with CHP to develop a CNHA management plan.

Duration and Review of Agreement:

The terms of the MOU are effective as of the date of mutual signing and will continue for one year. The MOU will be reviewed by both parties no later than one year after signing and may be extended by mutual written agreement of both parties. Upon mutual consent of the parties the agreement may be modified during the term of the agreement.

The Field Museum was established in 1893 at the end of the World's Columbian Exhibition. Its first home was in Jackson Park in the building previously occupied by the Fair's Palace of Fine Arts. Jackson Park is located on the northern edge of the then-emerging industrial Calumet region.

Since that time, the Museum has grown to become one of the world's leading collections-based natural history museums. The Field's collections include objects and specimens from four primary scientific disciplines: Anthropology, Botany, Geology, and Zoology. Field Museum curators and scientists have ranged the globe to find specimens and objects that tell the story of life on earth. They have also focused attention on how that story unfolded closer to home.

The Calumet region has been of interest to Museum scientists for over 100 years. In Calumet, scientists have collected birds, fishes, insects, amphibians, plants, and prehistoric objects that aid in determining the region's human and biological inheritance and resources. Significant scientific work continues today, through close observation of flora and fauna as well as some targeted collecting of new specimens and objects, including a Contemporary Urban Collections Initiative, which documents twenty-first century urban social and cultural life.



From the roof of the Field Columbian Museum, looking south onto Jackson Park and the Calumet region beyond. 1910.



The Field Museum today.

CALUMET BOTANICAL HERITAGE

Robb Telfer, Keller Science Action Center, The Field Museum, Chicago IL

Photo credits indicated below. Produced by Juliana Philipp and Iza Redlinski. [fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org] Rapid Color Guide #821 version 1 10/2016

One of the Calumet Region's most unique qualities is its high biodiversity, which perseveres despite being one of the most heavily industrialized and populated places on Earth. Calumet is the meeting place of three major North American biomes: the boreal forests from the North, the tallgrass prairie from the West, and the broadleaf forests from the East. The sandy soils here are ancient dunes deposited by the movement of Lakes Chicago and Algonquin (precursors of Lake Michigan) over thousands of years. There are many rare plants in the Calumet, which contribute to the diversity that this guide celebrates as the region's one-of-a-kind botanical heritage.

RARE CALUMET SPECIES



FT Mead's Milkweed
Asclepias meadii



SE Little Grapefern
Botrychium simplex



ST/SE Blue Hearts
Buchnera americana



SE Little Prickly Sedge
Carex echinata



FT Pitcher's Thistle
Cirsium pitcheri



SE Bunchberry
Cornus canadensis



ST/SR Spoon-Leaved Sundew
Drosera intermedia



ST/SE Jack Pine
Pinus banksiana



SE Orange Fringed Orchid
Platanthera ciliaris



SE Nodding Trillium
Trillium cernuum

OTHER IMPORTANT CALUMET SPECIES



Eastern Prickly Pear
Opuntia humifusa
Calumet's only cactus



Black Oak
Quercus velutina
Keystone species



Showy Goldenrod
Solidago speciosa



Sky Blue Aster
Symphyotrichum oolentangiense



Banded Trinity
Thysania americana
Calumet's only endemic

FT – Federally threatened

SE – State endangered in IL and/or IN

ST/SE – State threatened in IL and State endangered in IN

ST/SR – State threatened in IL and State rare in IN

Important late season nectar sources

Report on Public Comment on the *Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study Draft*

Thank you to all who provided comments on the *Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) Feasibility Study* draft! The information provided will help to strengthen the Calumet NHA as it moves forward on the path to formal designation. The richness of the positive commentary and discussion about the region's issues and resources demonstrates a point made by the feasibility study—in many ways the Calumet region already *is* a Heritage Area, filled with opportunities for mutual discovery and engagement.

Formal designation as a NHA entails some specific next steps:

- Continue to gather public support for and increase public awareness of the Calumet NHA effort.
- Submit the final version of the Study to the National Park Service.
- Develop draft legislation and advocate for Congress to formally designate the Calumet National Heritage Area.
- Complete a management plan to flesh out and implement projects related to the goals and priorities outlined in the Study.

As always, the Calumet Heritage Partnership will provide updates as the process goes forward on its website at CalumetHeritage.org.

Purpose and Structure of this Report

The purpose of this report is to describe and address the comments made to the feasibility study, and to suggest how they might be addressed in the management plan. The report does more than fulfill a task that is part of the National Park Service's NHA feasibility study process, the key elements of which are summarized in Chapter Five of the study. It also sustains an ongoing and fruitful conversation in the Calumet region's "public square" about the area's issues and assets. As part of such a conversation and in response to several comments that wondered why this or that item did not achieve more emphasis, it will be helpful to briefly review a few points about the purpose and structure of the study.

Since the study was conducted for the specific Heritage Area program at the national scale, it needed to highlight certain elements and resources that are either unique or among the best type examples for a national audience. Three salient themes emerged which represent and coalesce what makes the region so remarkable: ***Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape; Innovation for Industries and Workers; and Crucible for Working Class and Ethnic Cultures.*** In addition to identifying central themes, it was necessary to focus on a time period of significance when the most transformative aspects of the region's heritage took place. The study concludes that few places in the United States better illustrate the profound impact industrialization made on the landscape and life of a region and the entire country than the Calumet area.

So the study identified the best story that the Heritage Area is suited to tell to the national audience. But this created some difficult choices. An excellent example concerns the devastating and ubiquitous dispossession of Native Americans of their land. These actions took place everywhere, including in the Calumet region. How would the study deal with such a fundamental human story that shaped our nation, but which was not particular to this region? In the end, the study concluded that the dispossession of Native American lands, while an integral part of the **Nature Reworked** theme and the human story of the region, was better told in other national sites and was not a core story that puts the region into the NHA spotlight. For that reason, the study did not prioritize resources and content related to the region's Native American heritage.

In addition to addressing these national-scale issues, the study also tried to capture a sense of topics discussed in the Calumet "public square." The strength of the Calumet region is its diversity. It was important to hear all the voices coming from the different places throughout the region and to illuminate the experiences that continue to shape this uncommon landscape. Toward this end, the inventory of **Key Resources** could be helpful to residents and regional organizations. It is hoped this study will be a living document that will be useful in enriching the texture of life in the region. It provides guidelines to support regional efforts, and for all of us to figure out how those efforts can come together.

Summary of Public Comments

The feasibility study draft was made available for public comment from January 3-February 13, 2017. The primary vehicles for dissemination of the study were through e-mail blasts to the project database of individuals and organizations throughout the region, Facebook and Twitter posts, and press releases and podcast media. Hard copies of the study and comment forms were distributed to nine libraries located throughout the bi-state region. The pending release of the study and subsequent comment period was announced at the Calumet Heritage Partnership's annual conference in October of 2016, and at community meetings which took place throughout the region. In many ways, the public comments we received are a continuation of that conversation. The Calumet Heritage Partnership's website hosted the draft and electronic submission forms at <http://www.calumetheritage.org/cnhastudy.html>.

A total of 34 individuals and representatives of organizations gave their feedback to the following questions:

National Significance

1. Does the study capture what is nationally significant about the Calumet region?
2. Are the key pieces of the region's story present?
3. Did we miss anything of national significance?

Sustainability and Support

4. Does a National Heritage Area seem supported and sustainable?
5. Is there anything else that you would suggest would improve this study?
6. On balance, do you support the creation of a National Heritage Area for the Calumet region?

Other Comments and Concerns

7. Additional comments/concerns?

Each of the comments received was worthy of serious consideration. They were overwhelmingly supportive, and many provided responses which ranged from copy edits to providing critical feedback on content. A full set of the comments is appended to this report. Individual comment tallies, selected quotes, and discussion follows.

Numerical Results and Selected Responses—National Significance

Twenty-nine respondents answered **Question 1:**

Does the study capture what is nationally significant about the Calumet region?

Of those 29 respondents, 28 answered affirmatively in whole or in part.

Twenty-three responses were fully favorable and included some of the following perspectives:

- *Yes... I learned about natural areas such as Ivanhoe Dune and Swale and also the Clark & Pine Nature Preserve. These are 2 areas containing rare species I did not know existed.*
- *Yes -- well explained and detailed...Industrial, ecological, and cultural pieces put into context and conversation with one another.*
- *Yes! And it lifts up a region that is like a diamond in the rough!*
- *I don't believe we've overlooked anything.*
- *My compliments and gratitude for efforts.*

Five responses were favorable but pointed out details to consider:

- *Partially, but certainly not completely.*
- *Yes, although I may have missed something about the migration from the economically poor south to the industrial north.*
- *To some extent. But...[more should be included about the] Thorn Creek Watershed.*
- *Would like to make sure a relationship to the Kankakee Grand Marsh and its impact on Calumet is well documented.*
- *It captures a great deal...[would like to see] more text on Park Forest and area... But overall, yes.*

One respondent pointed out the value of the study but did not feel qualified to judge the national significance of the content:

- *Chapter Three is really strong about the importance of the Calumet region. Whether it is of “national significance” is for someone else to decide.*

We received 29 responses to **Question 2:**

Are the key pieces of the region’s story present?

Of these responses, 16 were fully favorable, and 13 responses were favorable but pointed out resources or subject matter that should be more strongly emphasized or included.

Some examples of comments from respondents who felt the study fully told the key aspects of the region’s story are as follows:

- *Yes the generations of human footprint, the environment, and the critical adaptation taking place now.*
- *I believe the breakdown of the study successfully follows the history and development of the Calumet Region as a whole and also shows the significance of each location’s early history to the present.*
- *Yes—three pillars (industry, ecology, and culture) clearly defined and written about.*
- *In my opinion, the report has done an excellent job of incorporating myriad aspects of the region, cultural, economic, industrial, ecological, geographic. These are supported by photographs, documents and other evidence.*

Respondents who felt that there was lacking information or emphasis shared the following examples, concerning elements of both cultural diversity and the region’s natural heritage:

- *Yes, but I would like to see more attention paid to the region’s cultural diversity. More discussion of the waves of immigrants and where they came from, where they settled, and how they lived. The Table on page 44 is incomplete, in that it omits the significant ethnicities of many of the Indiana communities named.*
- *Yes, although there seems to be something lacking about the draining of the Kankakee marsh area, definitely a huge part of the natural disturbance within your boundaries of the National Heritage Area.*
- *To some extent, but the role of the Illinois portion is greatly underplayed by not extending the proposed Western Boundary to include the entire Thorn Creek Watershed.*
- *Migrating birds need to be highlighted more.*

We received 30 responses to **Question 3:**

Did we miss anything of national significance?

Of these responses, 14 felt we had not omitted anything of national significance. Sixteen respondents reported a range of omissions, including:

- *Perhaps C-CURE and the JanTon Farm underground railroad stop in Roseland.*
- *Yes - the region remains the crossroads of the country for both rail and road...*
- *The migration from the economically poor south to the industrial north...*
- *... excludes important Illinois history... Homewood has a real log cabin and four Lustron houses.*
- *The impact of industrialization and urbanization on the night sky*
- *[need to recognize] the distinctive differences between the region’s western and the eastern (i.e., LaPorte County) portions*

Numerical Results and Selected Responses—Support and Sustainability

Questions 4-6 asked whether the Calumet NHA effort was worthy of support and would be sustainable, and whether there was room for improvement in the study. While the responses to those questions were resoundingly supportive, some respondents shared their insights into the complexity of successful partnerships and offered prudent advice.

Thirty-one people responded to **Question 4:**

Does a NHA seem supportable and sustainable?

Twenty-seven responded “Yes,” and some provided additional thoughts and guidance, as this selection of quotes demonstrates:

- *The report shows not only the aspects of the region that we wish to celebrate, but demonstrates significant interest and involvement by local communities and various interest groups ...*
- *Yes, but that will be enhanced if the Illinois Resources are given some balance.*
- *Sustainable? Yes, but there will always be opposing forces to overcome, so the more outreach and education, the better. The more people see and understand the benefit, the better.*

Two respondents were less confident about the sustainability of the Calumet NHA, as these comments highlight:

- *Potentially it could be.*
- *I’m not sure there is an answer to this question...*

Twenty-eight people responded to **Question 5:**

Is there anything else that you would suggest would improve this study?

Of those respondents, 19 offered substantive comments, including:

- *There is little discussion of higher educational institutions.*
- *Have you contacted area storytellers...Especially ethnic storytellers-including Native Americans ...*
- *Yes, the comparison of the public “School System Structure” between Illinois and Indiana...*
- *...increasing trail connections with access to open space and waterways between and among our neighborhoods...and Illinois and Indiana.*
- *Important to include the range of ethnic varieties that exists and can be built upon...*
- *A better understanding of the many dimensions of the Pullman story in the region, the nation and the world.*
- *The “next steps” on page 78 is weak and needs to be expanded.*
- *Definitely inclusion of area-specific elements...I think there a tendency in this study to homogenize the region...*

Thirty-two people responded “Yes” to **Question 6:**

On balance, do you support the creation of a National Heritage Area for the Calumet region?

One respondent added, “I think that it is a very good concept, that if undertaken properly, can be of great value.”

Of the total number of respondents, only one did not support the creation of a Calumet National Heritage Area, even while acknowledging the merits of the Study.

- *I support [a different alternative] – local initiative without legislated designation. I think there has been a strong case made for looking at the Calumet as a developing area that is building an image of a “region.” But putting the “eggs” in the NHA basket runs the risk of diverting progress that is being made. I would use the [Feasibility Study] and all of the work that went into it, as a springboard for creating an aggressive effort to build on the region’s strengths.*

Additional comments/concerns?

Twenty of the 32 respondents to this question offered additional comments, many of them quite extensive. All were offered as part of a supportive general statement for the NHA.

Discussion of Comments Received

While overwhelming support for the study and for the creation of a Calumet NHA was received, most of the input was related to missing information or emphasis related to thematic content, boundary, resources, and organization and priorities of the Calumet NHA. These comments are summarized and excerpted below, along with reflections on the comments. The excellent commentary received as part of this process will give the management plan firm ground on which to build. This report and the comments in full have been included as an appendix in the final submission of the study. All factual errors and copy edits that were included in the comments have been addressed in the final version of the study.

Resources

A number of commentators pointed out resources that support the Calumet NHA themes but which were not sufficiently discussed in the study and/or not included in the **Key Resources appendix**. Some of these omissions were oversights, and others fall outside the timeframe of the study, which focuses on the years of industrialization and its consequences. A decision to expand the recommended heritage area boundary beyond the longstanding study area boundary also brought some areas less familiar to the authors inside the proposed boundary. Some of the resources cited by commenters, such as Chellberg Farm, are included in the working database but not in the list of **Key Resources**. What follows are some of the categories of resources which commenters felt should be included in the study:

- Arts organizations and festivals [4 comments]
- Underground Railroad sites [3 comments]
- Higher education institutions [2 comments]
- Historic sites [7 comments]
- Natural areas or preserves [6 comments]

Comments included:

- *Preservation of Holy Trinity Hungarian Church, possible site to highlight religious history of Lake County. This parish celebrated its last worship service this last September or October. The rectory and parish hall may provide a site for a homeless shelter.*
- *The study did an overall good job of describing the phyto-geographic elements of the Region. That is the Eastern Deciduous (a.k.a. Central hardwood) Forest Flora, the Boreal (Post-Glacial) Flora and the Western Prairie Flora. But what it completely missed was the Atlantic Coastal Plain (Disjunct) Flora. ... nowhere else does the number of these species approach that occurring along the southeasterly coast of lake Michigan.*

Study Area Boundary

The study area boundary was a composite of geomorphological, cultural, natural, and political features and where, exactly, to locate the confluence of these features was a matter of vigorous discussion throughout the preparation of the study. Even though only six comments were received on the proposed boundary, the range of opinion was somewhat reflective of the debate that occurred throughout the study period.

Four reviewers recommended expanding the currently proposed boundary to include more of Illinois and the Kankakee watershed, as these comments illustrate:

- *Extend the border further south in Illinois to include the Thorn Creek Watershed, which is the Flashiest Sub-Watershed (according to the US Weather Bureau) that connects to Calumet region, via the Little Calumet River.*
- *[The study is] Indiana heavy.*
- *Why go as far south in Indiana to the Kankakee River and not to the Kankakee in Illinois ...*

One reviewer commented that the bounded area effectively encompasses the significant resources:

- *With expanded boundaries the number and breadth of significant features has grown ... The process by which we added what's significant was effective.*

Another reviewer recommended decreasing the bounded area:

- *The...overwhelming majority of thematic resources [fall] within five to eight miles of Lake Michigan. This does not square very well with the proposed boundaries.*

While the final point is not inaccurate (the majority of thematic resources do fall within the northern section of the proposed boundary), the process of conducting the feasibility study revealed that residents who live in the southern portions of Lake, Porter, and Cook counties do identify themselves as part of the Calumet region.

Coupled with the value of counties as political entities and to accommodate those who wanted to be in the boundary, we now suggest expanding the southern boundary in Illinois as well. The solution of expanding the boundary all the way to the Kankakee River is not as simple in Illinois as it is in Indiana. In Indiana, counties stretch all the way from the industrial lakefront to the Kankakee River in the south; in Illinois, three counties (Cook, Will, and Kankakee) take up that space, while very significant stretches of Will and Kankakee do not cover the Calumet region at all. In addition, in Indiana, the administrative area of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission is coterminous with the boundaries of Lake, Porter, and La Porte counties. In Illinois, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning region does not include Kankakee county, and does include vast stretches of non-Calumet northeastern Illinois. Based on feedback to the study, it is now recommended that the management plan include a boundary that allows more of the municipalities which comprise the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association to be at least touched by the National Heritage Area boundary. This could be accomplished with a simple east-west line along the line of Crete-Monee Road between the state line and I-57, and then north on I-57 to where it intersects the previous boundary at Crawford Avenue.

Thematic Content

Presented below is a selection of comments related to the themes and stories identified in the study. These suggestions raise excellent points that reflect the richness of heritage stories embedded in the region and provide avenues for exciting programmatic possibilities. The feasibility study format offered a way to highlight central themes and touch on some of the stories embodying them, but there are many others. We have thought hard about whether we could, in the feasibility study format, delve more deeply into all of the suggestions received through the comments. Our conclusion is that the study provides entry into these stories and subthemes, which point to and support deeper exploration in the management plan and related projects.

The majority of the thematic comments expanded or deepened the three core themes identified in the study, as shown by these examples:

Nature Reworked: The Calumet's Diverse Landscape

- *Raise the profile of the environmental justice movement in this study. Its founding in the Calumet is proving to be just as powerful as the labor movement's founding at Pullman.*
- *Map transportation routes and pipelines and discuss how these both challenge and enable the region's success.*
- *The story Thorn Creek Nature Preserve's development should be included in the study.*

Innovations for Industries and Workers

- *Might do more with innovations conceived here...advances that came out of Standard Oil Research in the years it was located in Whiting...the ArcelorMittal Research group in East Chicago has led the way with many improvements related to automotive steel. Urschel Labs and their contributions to food processing...*
- *A better understanding of the many dimensions of the Pullman story...*

Crucible of Working Class and Ethnic Cultures

- *More attention should be paid to the region's cultural diversity...more discussion of the waves of immigrants, where they came from, where they settled, and how they lived.*
- *... the migration from the economically poor south to the industrial north.*
- *... I want to see how the family structure and life has changed with the Calumet's history's "advances" and "setbacks"*

Other reviewers shared their thoughts on how the study dealt with the interaction of the core themes:

- *...the report has done an excellent job of incorporating myriad aspects of the region, cultural, economic, industrial, ecological, geographic.*
- *There is a tendency in this study to homogenize the region...The notion of diversity—regional origin, as well as racial, ethnic, religious, biological, geological, etc.,—stands out as a hallmark of the region.*
- *I love how nature and culture are woven together throughout...*

Organization and Priorities

Some of the feedback we received noted regional groups or efforts as being absent from the study, and raised questions related to the proposed management structure. A selection of comments is listed below, and we will keep these and the other concerns we received in the foreground as the process develops.

- *The support has grown over the years, but what is most importance is that we've advanced a way that promises to sustain the effort.*
- *More could be said about the region's "present" and "future."*
- *Please emphasize whenever possible increasing trail connections with access to open space and waterways between and among our neighborhoods, and our regions, and Illinois and Indiana.*
- *... I'm always concerned about the continuation of foundation support to support ongoing operations. So often they are willing to provide project seed funds, but then expect organizations to support themselves with earned income. That transition was a little fuzzy to me in the feasibility study.*
- *This project could improve local government cooperation possibly even more so on the Illinois side where we have the Largest Sanitary District in the World (mwr.org) and Largest Forest Preserve District (FPDCC) as Stakeholders in this study area.*
- *I hope the CHP and Collaborative remain open to changes to overcome unforeseen challenges in the years ahead.*

Conclusion

The Calumet National Heritage Area initiative provided the elements to create a public dialogue around the region's stories and the places that embody them. Had the study not been completed, the Calumet "public square" would not be open for the discussion of using the past to shape the present and the future of this nationally significant landscape. The Calumet National Heritage Area feasibility study process has proven to be a valuable one and will continue to be a catalyst for regional conversation, as all of these comments amply demonstrate.

Does the study capture what is nationally significant about the Calumet region?

- 1 Yes, absolutely.
- 2 I believe that it provides an excellent, persuasive, well-documented presentation.
- 3 Yes, very thorough.
- 4 Yes, extremely well.
- 5 Yes, it does a good job of identifying the significant points.
- 6 Yes
- 7 Yes! And it lifts up a region that is like a diamond in the rough! Now that industry and environmentalists are learning how to collaborate, things are getting even better.
- 8 Yes
- 9 Yes.
- 10 Chapter Three is really strong about the importance of the Calumet region. Whether it is of “national significance” is for someone else to decide.
- 11 Yes, the study is well thought out and written. I learned about natural areas such as Ivanhoe Dune and Swale and also the Clark & Pine Nature Preserve. These are 2 areas containing rare species I did not know existed.
- 12 Yes
- 13 Yes—well-explained and detailed even for someone who doesn’t know much about the area. Industrial, ecological, and cultural pieces put into context and conversation with one another.
- 14
- 15
- 16 Yes, although I may have missed something about the migration from the economically poor south to the industrial north. I don’t seem to recall that being a part of the national story, too.
- 17 My compliments and gratitude for efforts.
- 18 Yes
- 19
- 20 Yes—we need more habitats
- 21 Yes
- 22 With expanded boundaries the number and breadth of significant features has grown since the publication of the feasibility study and the initial Calumet Heritage Partnership meeting. The process by which we added what’s significant was effective. I don’t believe we’ve overlooked anything.
- 23 See *Extended Comments*
- 24 Would like to make sure a relationship to the Kankakee Grand Marsh and its impact on Calumet is well documented
- 25 This study clearly represents years of research into the geographical, ecological, industrial, historical, and cultural life of the region. It is comprehensive, while maintaining focus on local identities.
The maps and photographs encompass the time frame in which the region developed, from early images and charts to latest composite maps, films, and records. These contribute to the story as evidence of a region that has been evolving over a long time period, with documentation for each stage.
- 26 It captures a great deal. I am sending suggestions for more text on Park Forest and area. It is “Indiana-heavy”. But overall, yes. See *Extended Comments*
- 27 Yes, the study delineates unique natural environmental resources, including Lake Michigan and its watershed and rivers, juxtaposed with industrial and RR development, and the Calumet culture over time with its people and events. The Calumet Heritage Area shares common themes with other national heritage areas, but is awesomely unique.
- 28 Yes.
- 29 Yes, The Calumet Region has much to offer that is being ignored!
- 30 Yes
- 31 Yes it does.
- 32 Yes, it is well structured, comprehensive and insightful.
- 33 Yes and I love how nature and culture are woven throughout. I’m glad there’s not a chapter on “nature” and one on “culture.”
- 34

Are the key pieces of the region’s story present?

- 1 Yes the generations of human footprint, the environment, and the critical adaptation taking place now.
- 2 I believe that they are.
- 3 Yes, I believe they are - I have one addition.
- 4 Yes.
- 5 Yes, but I would like to see more attention paid to the region’s cultural diversity. More discussion of the waves of immigrants and where they came from, where they settled, and how they lived. The Table on page 44 is incomplete, in that it omits the significant ethnicities of many of the Indiana communities named.
- 6 Yes, although more could be said about the region’s ‘present’ and ‘future’.
- 7 Yes, but I think that once the Calumet region is declared a NHA, even more of the pieces, like 100 fold, will emerge.
- 8 Yes
- 9 Yes
- 10 Chapter Three does an excellent job of detailing the evolution of the Calumet region from a natural landscape, to an industrial powerhouse, and ultimately to a region struggling to find its way in a semi-deindustrialized landscape. This is a much broader picture than seems to be captured by the three “themes.” The broader picture is (perhaps) what makes the Calumet unique. The themes, I suspect, exist among other areas of the U.S.
- 11 I believe the breakdown of the study successfully follows the history and development of the Calumet Region as a whole and also shows the significance of each location’s early history to the present.
- 12 Yes
- 13 Yes—three pillars (industry, ecology, and culture) clearly defined and written about
- 14
- 15

- 16 Yes, although there seems to be something lacking about the draining of the Kankakee marsh area, definitely a huge part of the natural disturbance within your boundaries of the National Heritage Area.
- 17 Mainly but regret more of Illinois is not included.
- 18 Yes
- 19 I thought you realized that starlight ought to be restored and preserved for future generations. I guess I'm wrong about that... or it would have been included in:
TABLE 4: Key Regional Goals and Priorities
Goals and Priorities
Potential Approaches
ENVIRONMENT AND STEWARDSHIP
It's bad enough fighting city hall in a long hard fight so they install the right damn streetlights... but I expected more from environmentalists.
- 20 Migrating birds need to be highlighted more
- 21 Yes
- 22 Yes
- 23 See *Extended Comments*
- 24 For me personally I want to see how the family structure and life has changed with the Calumet's history's "advances" and "setbacks".
- 25 In my opinion, the report has done an excellent job of incorporating myriad aspects of the region, cultural, economic, industrial, ecological, geographic. These are supported by photographs, documents and other evidence
- 26 Not all. Excellent job on what is there.
- 27 See *Extended Comments*
- 28 Yes
- 29 Yes, especially including the history on how these areas developed and how they can continue to improve
- 30 Mostly
- 31 Yes it is.
- 32 Yes, given the time I had to review the document, I found it a wealth of environmental, historical and industrial information.

Did we miss anything of national significance?

- 1 No.
- 2 I think not, although I noted some typos, and some small rough spots, which I have documented, separately.
- 3 Nothing of national significance.
- 4 Perhaps C-CURE and the Jan Ton Farm underground railroad stop in Roseland.
- 5 No.
- 6 Yes - the region remains the crossroads of the country for both rail and road. Protecting the integrity of the country's transportation networks requires carefully balancing new growth with the region's decreasing ability to handle what it does now.
- 7 No, it seemed to me to be a very thorough study. I've heard rumors that IN Dunes National Lakeshore may soon become IDN PARK—so that would be pretty significant. But of course, you can't put rumors in a feasibility study! Also, the League of Women Voters IS a national group—LWVLUS - but in

Appendix D, you should go ahead and list some or all of the following: League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region (LWVLMR.org), LWV Calumet Region, LWV Porter County, LWV LaPorte County, LWV Illinois, LWV Indiana. All of these groups are aware of this initiative, and support it! By the way, Tom Shepherd represented the CHA at the LWVLMR's Annual Meeting in Porter, IN, this past October—that wasn't mentioned on the public meetings list. Thanks!

- 8 No
- 9 Not to my knowledge
- 10 The document is very thorough. It is hard to imagine anything being missed.
- 11 The study leaves the reader well informed.
- 12 No
- 13 I am not knowledgeable enough to know.
- 14
- 15
- 16 The migration from the economically poor south to the industrial north and the draining of the Kankakee marsh.
- 17 Prefer that the border be extended further south in Illinois. Calumet River tributaries begin with the Butter Field Creek which flows into Thorn Creek into the Little Calumet River. Why go as far south in Indiana to the Kankakee River and not to the Kankakee in Illinois which excludes important history. Crete has documented underground railroad history and historic Balmoral Race Track which will reopen in May as a competitive horse jumping venue. Architecture: Homewood has a real log cabin and four Lustron houses. "Calumet has no railroad commuter suburbs" says Keating. What is Homewood, Flossmoor?
- 18 Might do more with innovations conceived here. I wish I could be more specific, but others might be able to articulate advances that came out of Standard Oil Research in the years it was located in Whiting. Maybe Inland, too. I know the Arcelor Mittal Research group in East Chicago has led the way with many improvements related to automotive steel. Urschel Labs and their contributions to food processing. And probably many others, if the stories were solicited. Large industry and presence as part of a major metropolitan area has created an environment in which important innovation has flourished. This may emphasize industry more than the natural assets of the region, but maybe others can see how better to tie industry, natural assets, and innovation into a story unique to the Calumet Region.
- 19
- 20 Need for diversity of plant life and removal of invasive species
- 21 Not to my knowledge.
- 22 No
- 23 Yes, Ford Heights, formerly called East Chicago Heights was a link in the Underground Rail Road. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ford_Heights,_Illinois) As this is one of the poorest communities in the nation, the Chicago Heights Library also has documentation regarding this issue. Sauk Village and Park Forest are Veterans based communities both of which depend on Ground Water.
Homewood, is the home for the CNN Rail Road which owns the Illinois Central Rail Road. (<http://icrrhistorical.org/history.html>) This connects the Calumet Region to New Orleans. Also, numerous Speed Records were set by the ICRR.



Governor State University, established the Thorn Creek Ecosystem Partnership and is a Depository Library for this region (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governors_State_University)

- 24 The Adjustments one made coming here versus other places is our “special sauce”. I want to know always more so how that plays out to the present.

25

- 26 Yes. Will send comments.

- 27 The establishment of IIPD by the State of Illinois, with an unpaid loan of \$15 million for an extensive area of land, which is surrounded with barbed wire, thus preventing any public use of this land for conservation or recreation (except for a high-priced golf course on the shores of Lake Calumet). It should be noted that other port districts in cities such as Seattle, San Francisco. and NYC design their port activities alongside public park land and with provisions for public access to the surrounding land and waterways.

- 28 Don’t think so.

- 29 There are some National Register properties and many National Register districts in Hammond and Gary, most are in Indiana and a few in Illinois within these boundaries. These honorary designations are important.

- 30 Yes, the year of the Pullman Strike is 1894. The role of the Pullman Civic Organization and Historic Pullman Foundation in designations and preservation of Pullman as a city, state and National Landmark district and eventual designation of the Pullman National Monument. It is a very good example the work accomplished with the Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

- 31 You covered it.

- 32 See *Extended Comments*

Does a national heritage area seem supported and sustainable?

- 1 Yes, absolutely.
- 2 Absolutely!
- 3 To my mind it is.
- 4 Absolutely.
- 5 Yes, absolutely. You’ve made a strong argument in favor of CHA designation and honestly described how to deal with the difficulty of guaranteeing sustainability.
- 6 Yes
- 7 100%
- 8 Yes
- 9 Yes
- 10 I’m not sure there is an answer to this question. At present everything is just beginning to fall into place. While there are many supporters, the “general” public is probably not informed and the backing of many people not currently “close” to the FS will be needed. CHP and the Collaborative are not currently ready to take on the responsibilities of managing—programmatically and fiscally—a heritage area. Further the national picture as to whether the NHA program will be supported/sustained is open to doubt.

- 11 By providing information supporting the importance of a number of areas unique to the Calumet Region such as the Dunes in Chesterton and Clark and Pine Nature Preserve in Indiana and those areas in Illinois including the Big Marsh, I believe you have provided facts and significant examples of sustainability and the importance of preserving the Calumet Region as a National Heritage Area.

- 12 Yes

- 13 Yes—it appears that there is good support for

- 14

- 15

- 16 This area has been blighted and lost for decades becoming home to a desperate people. There are people who are very skeptical that such a plan can be successful because they sense a great deal of danger for people who are charmed by this to unwittingly find themselves in harms way by participating recreationally, and people who know better, won’t. It will be a tall order for outreach and education to overcome such attitudes. However, the richness of the story and its natural significance demands support and we should work hard to achieve that. Sustainable? Yes, but there will always be opposing forces to overcome, so the more outreach and education, the better. The more people see and understand the benefit, the better.

- 17 Yes, with proud and dedicated residents involved. Thank you for something to support, hope, cheer for.

- 18 Yes, though I’m always concerned about the continuation of foundation support to support ongoing operations. So often they are willing to provide project seed funds, but then expect organizations to support themselves with earned income. That transition was a little fuzzy to me in the feasibility study.

- 19.

20. Yes—but it needs to be protected from industry

21. Yes

- 22 The support has grown over the years, but what is most importance is that we’ve advanced a way that promises to sustain the effort.

- 23 Yes, but that will be enhanced if the Illinois Resources are given some balance.

- 24 If those who are in it can see their need to row to grow, then we’ll get that attractive field that draws others who will do likewise.

- 25 The report shows not only the aspects of the region that we wish to celebrate, but demonstrates significant interest and involvement by local communities and various interest groups. Those working to create this National Heritage Area have drawn on the experiences of previous feasibility studies and on the expertise and “lessons learned” from other similar successful projects. The work of several decades is clearly shown in this report.

- 26 Yes.

- 27 Yes. I support the National Heritage Area designation by U.S. Congress with technical assistance by the National Park Service, aligned with the State of Illinois and State of Indiana designation, and incorporating local initiatives. I strongly support trail connections among out Illinois and Indiana communities; promotion of public access to Lake Michigan and Lake Calumet for conservation and public recreational purposes.

- 28 Yes.
- 29 Yes
- 30 Yes. It fills in the stories and attractions of the communities between the two National Parks.
- 31 I think it is supported and sustainable.
- 32 Given what I know of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh areas, I believe the Calumet region to be equally or more supportable and sustainable as national heritage areas.

Is there anything else that you would suggest would improve this study?

1. Please keep us informed of this invaluable effort.
- 2 See my comments to the “Did we miss anything of national significance?” question.
- 3 I believe that South Shore Arts in Munster should be added. If Towle Theater and Paul Henry’s Gallery are listed, certainly South Shore Arts should be.
- 4 Not the over-all picture.
- 5 “There’s little discussion of higher educational institutions. Even a list of colleges and universities would help (two Purdue campuses, IU Northwest, Valpo, Calumet College, So Suburban, Governors State, Ivy Tech). Many of them are involved in natural land restoration through programs such as GLISTEN that promotes summer jobs for college students in the nature preserves. Most of them have high percentages of minority students.
On page 31, you mention the INAI designation of 11 Calumet sites as being of statewide significance. You could also mention here that the Indiana DNR has designated more than a dozen sites as state nature preserves in the three counties, most of them owned by land trusts or county park departments.”
- 6 Raise the profile of the environmental justice movement in this study. Its founding in the Calumet is proving to be just as powerful as the labor movement’s founding at Pullman. Also, map the various transportation routes & pipelines and discuss how these both challenge and enable the region’s success.
- 7 It’s great - I was impressed by the Study! Have you contacted area storytellers? I noticed the arts were listed, but I am wondering specifically about storytellers! (Ch. 4, p. 68). Especially ethnic storytellers - including Native Americans. Also, in Ch. 4 - what about ethnic festivals and such?
- 8 Growth and expanse of Chicagoland ecorestoration small businesses job opportunities and lifestyles unique to our area.
- 9 No
- 10 The “next steps” on page 78 is weak and needs to be expanded. It looks like it was thrown together at the last moment without a lot of thought.
- 11 Not at this time.
- 12 No
- 13 Seems very thorough and well-thought out to me
- 14
- 15

- 16 Congratulations to the hard work and collaboration of so many on so many levels.
- 17 Again, extend the border further south in Illinois. We south suburbanites consider ourselves as living in the Calumet area all our lives.
- 18 See above comments
- 19
- 20 The importance of protecting the area from industry
- 21
- 22 Not at the moment. However, I would hope that the CHP and Collaborative remain open to changes to overcome unforeseen challenges in years ahead.
- 23 Yes, the comparison of the public ‘School System Structure’ between Illinois and Indiana in this proposed heritage district. My Dissertation @ NIU, 1980, did this to a limited extent in that I explored the History of the Township School Treasurer. Indiana obviously made better decisions as far as allocating resources to the Class Room and Illinois Stakeholders purchased more local Control and Administrative Overhead to our detriment.
- 24 Being true in language and tone to the way is was helps us know how we can better be today, in taking what we need and leaving what we don’t.
- 25
- 26 Will send my comments and suggestions
- 27 Please emphasize whenever possible increasing trail connections with access to open space and waterways between and among our neighborhoods, and our regions, and Illinois and Indiana.
- 28
- 29 Important to include the range of ethnic varieties that exists and can be built upon, and how these are all good things, these areas shouldn’t be written off as forgotten.
- 30 A better understanding of the many dimensions of the Pullman story in the region, the nation and the world.
- 31 The pictures are a great way to tell the story of the Calumet. There should be more pictures.
- 32 There is nothing else that I would suggest to improve this study at this time.

On balance, do you support the creation of a National Heritage Area for the Calumet region?

- 1 Yes
- 2 Yes
- 3 Yes
- 4 Yes
- 5 Yes
- 6 Yes
- 7 Yes
- 8 Yes
- 9 Yes

10 No. I support alternative 3 - local initiative without legislated designation. I think there has been a strong case made for looking at the Calumet as a developing area that is building an image of a "region." But putting the "eggs" in the NHA basket runs the risk of diverting progress that is being made. I would use the FS and all the work that went into it, as a springboard for creating an aggressive effort to build on the region's strengths. CHP and the Collaborative can/should move forward and not wait for NPS/Washington to act. The things wanted for the region are greater than accomplished by the NPS. I see NPS as a partner, not the agency under which the effort is housed.

11

12 Yes

13 Yes

14 Yes

15 Yes

16 Yes

17 Yes

18 Yes

19

20 Yes

21 Yes

22 Yes

23 Yes

24 Yes

25 Yes

26 Yes

27 Yes

28 Yes

29 Yes

30 Yes

31 Yes

32 I thoroughly enjoyed reading the Feasibility Study Draft. Thank you for the opportunity to take part in the process.

Additional comments/concerns?

1 Thank you for allowing me to participate in this important project. Thank you for all of your hard work. I look forward to getting to the finish line so we can begin to implement the vision.

2 I am submitting my editorial comments, separately. They are related more to the text, than to the concepts. Thank you for sharing this with us.

3

4 I am sending a separate list of minor editing items.

5 I'm sending separately to Madeleine a few errors I picked up and a list of resources that I think might be included in Appendix 3.

6 Openlands is a nongovernment organization that can leverage Federal expenditures with local resources—both financial and personnel—to advance goals of this National Heritage Area.

7

8

9

10 The thematic maps (chapter 2) show the overwhelming majority of thematic resources to be within 5-8 miles of Lake Michigan. This doesn't square very well with the proposed boundaries. I'll provide more comments on this by separate email.

11 As a life-long resident of the Calumet Region with connections to Indiana and Illinois, I am delighted to gain insight into the importance of promoting this area historically through the creation of National Heritage recognition. I am a cyclist and outdoor enthusiast. I have enjoyed the I&M Canal Trail through the years and support the trail as a National Heritage Corridor with significant history contributing to economic development throughout suburban Chicagoland. I believe the Calumet Initiative is an important link in further economic development, sustainability and tourism for Chicago Southland and NW Indiana.

12

13 None

14 On page 34 of the study, the picture of the Sauk Trail marker has an inaccurate caption. The marker is not along the edge of Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve. That preserve is in Will County and not on Sauk Trail road. The marker is located on the south side of Sauk Trail on the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's Schubert's Woods in their Thorn Creek division.

15 Grammar: on page 32 the genus on the plant names should be capitalized.

16

17 Keep us informed. I announced the effort at three meetings including a Drivin' the Dixie communities meeting. I asked people to look at the proposal. When I inquired at the Homewood Library for the copy of the proposal which was supposed to be a site having a copy of the proposal they knew nothing about it. I asked them to download a copy and they did. I also inquired about the library hosting a meeting to promote the effort but they are booked until summer. I also informed the Illinois State Historical Society as I am a board member and past vice president.

18

19

20 I would like to see the area expanded and work it's way into residential and business sectors

21

22

23 This project could improve local government cooperation possibly even more so on the Illinois side where we have the Largest Sanitary District in the World (mwrld.org) and Largest Forest Preserve District (FPDCC) as Stakeholders in this study area. But, historically, there is flooding caused by Indiana upon Illinois Residents and the Hold Harmless Agreement signed by the respective Governors should apply also to the Citizens in the Thorn Creek Watershed.

- 24 If at all possible any stakeholder addition to The Lights of Honor International (www.lightsofhonor.org) can be added to the printed literature it/LHI will add to the benefits of the overall project and goal. LHI has done so much that Calumet Heritage is unaware of but so many we work with in the area know of our collective interests in building up the area and the people who now do, did, or will, call it home.
- 25 A tiny issue: There is a table showing local communities, which appears to be missing Thornton, IL. The Thornton Quarry, and the historical group of the village, along with their efforts related to the nearby CC Forest Preserves, should be included.
- 26 Will send my comments/suggestions.
- 27 Kudos for this Calumet Heritage Area Feasibility Study! The feasibility study and supporting leadership facilitate the development of a unifying vision for identifying and managing the awesome resources in the Calumet. I hope my comments are helpful as you co-ordinate the strategy for developing the vision, including management and participation for the Calumet Heritage Area.
- 28 The point of the NHA designation is to provide a framework under which to coordinate efforts in sustainability, quality of life, tourism, and education on the heritage and future of the study area. Included in all these areas is the role of regional and recreational trails, pathways, greenways, and multiple coordinated modes of transportation. South Shore Trails (www.SouthShoreTrails.org), northwest Indiana's only stakeholder user group dedicated to the role of alternative and multimodal transportation, endorses the NHA designation as a vehicle for coordinating continued improvements in quality of life across the entire study area and region. We look forward to supporting and participating in 'next steps' as the NHA develops.
- 29
- 30 See *Extended Comments*
- 31 Can you utilize video like the Shifting Sands video or CEPA's video of the Calumet River with this study?
- 32
- 33 Missed statement about resources being in bold
- 34 See *Extended Comment*

Extended Comments by Submission Number 2

Chapter 1: is a smoothly presented documentation of the National Heritage Area idea's evolution into a well-conceived, thoughtfully-designed -- and exciting -- project.

Chapter 3, page 35: right hand column: Sentence that includes this segment: "... and soon began to exert a magnetic attraction on industrial development. The magnetic attraction phrase was used in an earlier section of this document, and worked well, in my opinion. However, when I encountered it, again, at this point, I felt let down by a document which, until now, had swept me up with the high quality, and freshness -- of its language -- until now, although, now that I reflect on it the auto-cliché use of "around" as a hackneyed substitute for a series of more specifically precise words, has also made me uncomfortable at moments during the reading. Everything else has been so fine, that these small bits stand large on the verbal landscape.

Chapter 3, page 36: This sentence, in left hand column, beneath Wisconsin Steel photo: The Calumet region, in contrast, was a tabula rasa for industrial development, a good place to innovate, as at Gary, with ... delete the space between "-vate" and the comma.

Chapter 3, page 37: Text beneath the Knickerbocker Ice Company photo: "The abundance of natural ice from area waters, combine with rail access ... "Sentence suggests that the word should be "combined."

Chapter 3, Page 39: generates confusion: text is inaccurate when it states that South Shore is the nation's last interurban electric line, while caption under photo correctly identifies Chicago's electric Metra line as connecting downtown with suburbs, although it fails to acknowledge the South Chicago Branch which still serves the former U.S. Steel South Works community, among others.

Page 42, right column: "... dunes, Bethlehem Still built part of ... "should, I believe, be Bethlehem Steel ... ("Still" being more likely, probably, below the Mason- Dixon Line...).

Page 42, caption beneath bottom photo: "A wide variety of materials have been used in wetlands, change the shape of the lake and created rail and highway beams that crisscross the wetlands." -- Given the context of the photo, is it possible that it should read "berms," instead of "beams?"

Page 50, second column: "the new text on the next American city." I am unclear on the use of the phrase, "the next American City," in connection with this discussion of an existing American city, Chicago. If that is the phrase that was intended, then the problem is with me. If it is a typo, I thought that it would be good to point that out.

Page 52: "The Calumet region is an instance of what Alan Berger called a "drossscape," a waste landscape ... "and "Rising from the drossscape, ... " With 3 "s" iterations in a row, this word begs for hyphenation, I believe.

Page 53: "... because the next phase for regions like this are now underway." I believe that, grammatically speaking, it should read, "... the next phase for regions like this is now underway."

Page 53: One key element of the drossscape is ... " dross-scape (my hyphenation) is spelled with two letters "s," in this instance - a definite inconsistency.

Page 54: "Significantly, and while not minimizing the challenge the region faces to make its lands and waters safe for people and for nature, there is positive movement to remove each one of

these drossscape components in a way. . . "Another inconsistent spelling of that word.

Page 54: "Berger thinks that "drosscapes" have few stakeholders, caretakers, guardians, or spokespersons." "Drosscape" appears several more times in the document.

Page 56: "bring together stakeholders around a cluster of toxic land fills . . ." Another example of a multi-meaning/meaningless term that fogs up the message for me. With this particular "around" intending to convey: is it, "regarding," "dancing," "hiking," of the preceding? I find a lot of confusion around the meaning of around when it is used around all sorts of sentences that are attempting to make various ideas clearer that around is capable of doing, bring as amorphous as it is in so many contexts.

Having pointed out these few micro-glitches, I think that it is important to emphasize I think that the document is powerful, and should be irresistible, if we are in a fair situation.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 8

On page 8, I suggest the addition of one more contrast using my words or words you find appropriate to express the dominant influence of the lake: Lake Michigan drew industry and people to its shores to exploit the land and its water, yet the lake is relentless in bringing new life, bountiful resources and pleasurable experiences to Calumet area residents and visitors.

Page 9, first sentence below the photograph: Change "continental" to "subcontinental" since waters on each side of the subcontinental divide end up in the same ocean.

Page 10, five lines from the bottom: Change "1921" to "1922" the actual year of opening. Water was turned in and the channel was placed in operation on August 25, 1922.

Page 21, caption of photograph on the right: The caption is misleading and should be rewritten following "District" as follows: "has begun disinfection of the treated effluent discharged from the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant to the Little Calumet River at Acme Bend." MWRD has only one plant in the Calumet region. The Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District also disinfects the treated effluent discharged to Thorn Creek from its plant in Chicago Heights. Treatment plants in Indiana discharging to the Grand and Little Calumet Rivers also practice disinfection.

Page 26, upper left-hand inset: Was it intentional or oversight that the work of J. Harlen Bretz was not included? Bretz, with the Illinois State Geological Survey, published the "Geology of the Chicago Region" in two parts, 1939 and 1955. Also, in the American Journal of Science, he published in 1951 "The Stages of Lake Chicago: Their Causes and Correlations" Schoon cites his work and uses Bretz's maps in the Schoon map on page 28. Bretz was the pioneer geologist in explaining the geomorphology of the region and led the way for many following geologists to go deeper into details.

Page 40, left column, last paragraph, last three lines: It is incorrect to say that the lock serves as the continental divide, or as the sub-continental divide. Water on both sides of the lock flows in the same direction, toward the Mississippi River. The U.S. Geological Survey shows that the 673-square-mile diverted watershed includes the entire Calumet River. You can say that the lock allows boats to transit between Lake Michigan and the Lockport Pool on the Illinois Waterway.

Also, for the same reason as stated above, the caption under the photograph of the lock should be corrected.

Page 40, right column, first paragraph. The reference to end note 19 does not appear to fit the content of the paragraph above it. The veracity of the last sentence of the paragraph is questioned and I recommend that you confirm or modify the statement by contacting the U.S. Geological Survey Water Science Center in Indianapolis. In the second paragraph, vaulted sidewalks and below-street-grade yards are common in Chicago north of Pershing Road, but are they really common across the region. I doubt the veracity of this statement.

Page 99, number 34: The Cal-Sag Channel starts in Calumet Park, Illinois, not Blue Island. Also, you may wish to “Rec.” in the second column since the channel is a recreational resource with several boat launches, marinas, riparian trails and water recreation sporting events.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 9

Does the study capture what is nationally significant about the Calumet region?

Partially, but certainly not completely. (See below.)

Are the key pieces of the region’s story present?

Some definitely are. But others are definitely not. (See below.)

Did we miss anything of national significance?

Oh yes! I will give you examples (below):

Native Biology:

The study did an overall good job of describing the phyto-geographic elements of the Region. That is, the Eastern Deciduous (a.k.a. Central Hardwood) Forest Flora, the Boreal (Post-Glacial) Flora and the Western Prairie Flora. But what it completely missed was the Atlantic Coastal Plain (Disjunct) Flora. There are a number of locations throughout the Great Lakes Region (and also in the mid-Mississippi Valley) where this disjunct coastal plain flora exist. But nowhere else does the number of these species approach that occurring along the southeasterly coast of Lake Michigan. That is, here in the Indiana Coastal Counties and adjacent counties of southwestern Michigan. A number of botanists, including Donald Culross Peattie, Virginia Lamerson, A.A. Reznicek, and others, have carefully studied this flora, over the decades. There has considerable speculation about how this flora, with its locally variable compositions, arrived here from the Atlantic Coastal Region. All generally agree that this migration likely occurred during the decline of the Wisconsin Glaciation, when the hydrology of the Great Lakes region was considerably different from that of the present day. But in any case, this flora is every bit as real and fascinating as the three other contributing regional flora listed above. It deserved to be included. [1] [2] [3].

Local History/Demographics:

Back in October 2015, I submitted comments for the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative. Much of this commentary dealt with distinctive differences between the Region’s western and the eastern (i.e. La Porte County) portions and the importance of recognizing them. I did not really see very much, in this study, recognizing this. For example, on page 34, observations on the regional demography in the study were apparently summarized in the statement:

“The vast Kankakee marshes tended to slow migration from the south and early populations tended to have a ‘Yankee’ character”.

I won’t speak to the situation of Lake County, or even that of Porter County. But as far as La Porte County is concerned, that statement could not be more completely wrong!

Commissioned in 1826, completed by the 1837, the Michigan Road bypassed the Kankakee Marshes, by coursing around them to the east. This road went directly into what is now South Bend. Then, it turned west and ended at Michigan City. Through that route, unlike Lake County and most of Porter County, the settlement of La Porte County was not significantly hindered by the presence of those wetlands. A multitude of La Porte County’ settlers indeed reached this county, by that route. While Kentuckians and migrants from states further south would take the entire route from Madison, Indiana to La Porte County. Most migrants from the east would take the National Road to the Indianapolis area and then turn north in order to complete the north half of the Michigan Road, in order to reach the county. These facts were responsible for the history of organized American settlement in La Porte County beginning considerably earlier and becoming more complex faster than areas to the west of it. [4] [5] [6] [7] [8] [9] [16].

As much as the Michigan Road was a boon to American settlement, it proved to be a bane to the Potawatomi (except for the Pokagon band). Its completion truly sealed their fate, by enabling General Tipton and his militia forces to ride up into northern Indiana and force the physical removal of these tribes, in the “Trail of Death”, ultimately to Osawatomie, Kansas. [4] [5] [6] [7] [8] [9].

In the study, recognition of “Key routes like the Vincennes Trace and the Sauk Trail” were noted (p. 34). But I found nothing at all mentioned about the Michigan Road!

Dr. Elfrieda Lang did intensive studies of the demographics of northern Indiana, in the 19th Century. Her painstakingly accurate works (see Literature Cited below) completely debunked the widespread, but utterly false myth that Southerners did not settle in Indiana, north of the National Road. In fact, apparently because of its position at the north terminus of the Michigan Road, La Porte County had the largest population of Southern-born settlers in the northern quarter of the state (i.e., north of the Wabash Valley). Like those Southerners (especially Virginians), many Pennsylvanians, and a number of New Yorkers, also took that route to La Porte County. (Remember that, in terms of birthplace, the three Eastern states that contributed most to the population of La Porte County in 1850 were New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia—in that order.) [10] [11] [12].

For the initial period of statehood, from 1816 through 1850, La Porte County had an even higher proportion of native Virginians living within its borders than the mean figure for the state of Indiana as a whole did. [12].

There were then, more native New Yorkers here than in any other county in Indiana. And there were also more native New Englanders here than in any other county in the state. But paradoxically, these New England “Yankees” were also the numerically smallest regional group in La Porte County, by 1850. They were by then outnumbered not only by natives of the Lower-Midwest (mostly from elsewhere in Indiana or Ohio), but also those from the Mid-Atlantic region, the South, and by residents born in foreign lands. [10] [11] [12].

This regional diversity manifested itself in a variety of ways. During the Civil War, the Louisville Journal noted that the 29th (Union) Regiment from La Porte “...may almost be regarded as a Kentucky regiment, for a majority of members are either natives or descendants of native Kentuckians.” [13].

In the 1860 Presidential race, the relatively high proportion of settlers with Southern roots also resulted in unusual vote totals. While, like other Hoosier counties in state’s northern tier, 60+% (actually 61%) of voters cast their ballots for Lincoln.

But the “flip side” of the election results revealed that 10% of these voters had actually voted for Southern candidates (90% of them for Breckinridge; 10% for Bell), rather than for Douglas. (And that would be more than ¼ of the Democrat voters.) With the exception of Newton County (with 9% voting for Southern candidates), no other county in at least the northern third of Indiana had comparable election results! [14].

Like another prominent La Porte County history author (Gen. Jasper Packard), Rev. E.D. Daniels spoke of the Copperhead problem in La Porte County, during the Civil War. Daniels noted that “La Porte County had much succession sentiment and succeeded in overcoming it.” He further noted that, “...in 1861, there were those who had in their possession the rebel flag and who on occasions did not hesitate to display it.” He also noted that there had been “...40 cases of men who had to be taken and forced to swear the oath of allegiance and sustain the government and fly the American flag”. One such case involved “one of the most distinguished citizens of La Porte.”, according to Daniels. He elaborated even more, but this is sufficient to reveal the situation. I am very well aware of Peace Democrats having been unjustifiably accused labeled as “Copperheads” and persecuted for their anti-war sentiments, in many parts of Indiana, during the Civil War. But at least some of these activities in La Porte County appear to have amounted to something more than just antiwar dissent. [15]

Perhaps the best summary of regional diversity in La Porte County was written in the preface page of C.C. Chapman & Co. ed. History of La Porte County, Indiana—Together with Sketches of its Cities, History, Portraits, Biographies and History of Indiana, which was published in 1880:

“The history of La Porte County possesses features of unusual interest in comparison with those of neighboring counties. Here the sturdy pioneer located and began to exert his civilizing influence long before other sections contained a settler...Here the shrewd and enterprising Easterner, the courtly Southerner and the sturdy, practical Westerner have met and mingled, have assimilated the better traits possessed by each other and thus have formed a society, a people superior in many particulars to that of most localities.” [16].

I presented all of these examples above to illustrate how distinctive—and apparently very different—La Porte County’s history was from that of the western part of the Calumet Region. Yet that does not preclude them both being part of this same region.

But neither should the history of the western part of the Calumet Region should be assumed to represent the history of La Porte County.

Literature Cited Native Biology:

- [1] Peattie, Donald Culross. “The Coastal Plain Element in the Flora of the Great lakes.” *Rhodora* Volume 7, Pp 69-80, 1905.
- [2] Reznicek, A.A. “The Disjunct Coastal Plain Flora in the Great lakes Region.” *Biological Conservation*, Pp.203-215, 1994.
- [3] Lamerson, Virginia. “Coastal plains flora in Indiana botanical areas.” *Butler University Botanical Studies*, Volume 9, Article 18. Pp 188-191.

Literature/Sources Cited Local History/Demographics:

- [4] Gordon II, Leon M. “Effects of the Michigan Road on Northern Indiana, 1830–1860”. *Indiana Magazine of History*, Volume 46, Issue 4, pp. 377-402. 1950.
- [5] Hunter, Juanita. “The Indians and the Michigan Road”. *Indiana Magazine of History*, Volume 83, September, 1987, pp. 244-266.

- [6] Weiser, Kathy. “Potawatomi Trail of Death”. *Legends of America*.2011.

- [7] Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Website.

- [8] Historic Michigan Road Website.

- [9] Michigan Road State Historic Marker. *Indiana Historical Bureau*. 1949.

- [10] Lang, Elfrieda. “Southern Migration to Northern Indiana before 1850.” Volume 50, Issue 4, pp. 349-356. 1954.

- [11] Lang, Elfrieda. “An Analysis of Northern Indiana’s Population in 1850.” *Indiana Magazine of History*, Volume 49, Issue 1, pp. 17-60, March 1953. (Ph.D. Thesis.)

- [12] Rose, Gregory C.” Upland Southerners: The County Origins of Southern Migrants.” *Indiana Magazine of History*, Volume 82, p.232-262, September 1991.

- [13] *La Porte Herald*. October 19, 1861 (P.2)*

- [14] Nation, Richard F. and Stephen E. Towne. *Indiana’s War – The Civil War in Documents* Pp.34-35.

Burnham, *Presidential Ballots 1836-1892*. (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1955.*

- [15] Daniels, E.D. *A Twentieth Century History and Biographical Record of La Porte County, Indiana*. Pp.377-378. 1904.

- [16] C.C. Chapman & Co. ed. *History of La Porte County, Indiana—Together with Sketches of its Cities, History, Portraits, Biographies and History of Indiana*. 1880. Chicago, Illinois. Preface page.

*For these two references, I went back to the Primary Sources—the *Louisville Journal* (for reference 8) and the post-1860 Election issue of *La Porte Herald* (for reference 9), respectively, in order to verify the accuracy of what was presented. These presented facts were demonstrated to be accurate.

Does a national heritage area seem supported and sustainable?

Potentially it could be.

Is there anything else that you would suggest would improve this study?

Definitely inclusion of area-specific elements, as I described above. I think that there is a tendency in this study to homogenize the Region. Obviously, there are certain common threads that bind its various, geographically divergent portions together, into a single region. But there are also distinctive differences that make these portions unique in their own right. It is a big mistake to be so concerned about demonstrating that this presented geography composes one region, that those respective, intriguing differences of various parts of that region are ignored. They are definitely all part of the fabric the Calumet Region.

When the question was asked about what overall traits characterize this Calumet Region. The notion of diversity—regional origin, as well, as racial, ethnic, religious, biological, geological, etc.—stands out as a hallmark of the region. Diversity—including regional origin diversity of early settler population—was certainly the case for La Porte County. If you are serious about representing historical reality, then this needs to be noted, where it existed (as in this county).

But if these facts are not to be included, then perhaps LaPorte County itself (and perhaps also other areas) should be left out of your design. And, in that case, perhaps then you should return to the minimal borders of the 1998 study area (as had been advocated by some people from northern Lake County, some time back.) I say this, even though I firmly believe that this national

heritage area would be immensely richer by including this eastern portion (i.e., La Porte County) within it. But, if its history cannot be accurately depicted within this study, then it should not be included.

On balance, do you support the creation of a National Heritage Area for the Calumet region?

Yes. I think that it is a very good concept that if undertaken properly, can be of great value.

Additional comments/concerns?

I think that I have sufficiently stated my concerns above. I could supply additional evidence for them, if this would be needed.

Overall, this Calumet National Heritage Area is a very good concept. But...the whole story of it needs to be told. It must NOT just be centered on only or mostly one part of this Calumet Region. All of its component areas (i.e., counties, etc.) have a story to be told.

If this can't be done, then you need to re-draw your concept of this region. But if that is done, your heritage area will be much poorer for doing so.

Note: If you wish to obtain any of the Literature Cited sources that I noted above, but are unable to do so. Let me know this and I will be happy to send you a copy.

Submission Number 5

You've clearly decided to use "Calumet region" with the second word in lower case, but there are maybe 20 instances of "Calumet Region" (often in photo captions). Also, in Chapter 2 Theme I, the introduction of the term "Calumet area" might be confusing.

Chapter 2, page 16 "Deindustrialization": It's not clear at the beginning of this paragraph when the "era of drastic shutdowns" occurred.

Chapter 2, page 18, and Chapter 3, page 55. Richard Hatcher was not the first African-American mayor in America. He is sometimes called the first black mayor of a major US city, but claims for that honor are also made for Carl Stokes in Cleveland who was also elected in 1967 and took office in 1968.

Chapter 3, page 33, surname of Jean Baptiste Point DuSable is misspelled.

Chapter 3, page 41, para 2, line 5 typographical error – "less were" should be "were less"

Chapter 3, page 52 – "drosscape" is misspelled (with a triple s) twice in the final para. of this page.

Suggested Additions to APPENDIX 3:

A. Key Resources

Barker Woods – Michigan City IN – LaPorte Co – Theme 1 (NPG Rec.)

Chellberg Farm – Porter IN – Porter Co – Theme 3 (NP)

Center for Visual & Performing Arts (South Shore Arts) – Munster IN – Lake Co – Theme 3

Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve – Chesterton IN – Porter Co – Theme 1 (NPP Rec.)

Cressmoor Prairie – Hobart IN – Lake Co – Theme 1 (NPG Rec.)

Glendale Park Historic District – Hammond IN – Lake Co – Theme 3 (HD) NHL

John Merle Coulter Nature Preserve – Portage IN – Porter Co – Theme 1 (NPG Rec.)

Memorial Opera House – Valparaiso IN – Porter Co – Theme 3 (CL HS)

Svenska Skola (Burstrom Chapel) – Porter IN – Porter Co – Theme 3 (CL HS)

Valparaiso International Center – Valparaiso IN – Porter Co – Theme 3 (CL)

B. Archives, Museums, Interpretive Centers

Deep River County Park Historic Grist Mill Visitor Center, Lake, IN

Gibson Woods County Park Environmental Awareness Center, Lake, IN

Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center, Porter, IN

Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, Porter, IN

Porter County Public Library (Genealogy Department at Valparaiso Branch), Porter, IN

Westchester Township History Museum, Porter, IN

(NOTE: WTHM is the depository for Prairie Club Archives)

C. Events

Northwest Indiana Earth Day Celebration, Porter, IN

Porter County Fair, Porter, IN

World Cultural Festival (Valparaiso), Porter, IN

Extended Comments by Submission Number 26

1. This is awkward. "dunal" Around the lagoons, recently restored dunal vegetation communities take hold.
2. The south of the Lincoln Highway and three miles to the west of the Dixie Highway, the modern successors of the Sauk Trail and Vincennes Trace. Any municipality that touches this boundary is considered to be within the National Heritage Area.
3. Caption to the marker on Sauk Trail: "This marker is located on the Sauk Trail between along the edge of the Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve in Park Forest, IL."



Recommended: "This DAR marker is located on Sauk Trail along the edge of the Cook County Forest Preserve District in Park Forest, IL between Western Avenue and Ashland Avenue. The John and Sabra McCoy homestead was located across Sauk Trail from this site. In addition to offering campgrounds to the Indian traders, it was a stop on the Underground Railroad."

I know Thorn Creek Basin group was working on this. They may say this is part of Thorn Creek, but I do not believe so. The area is marked with a concrete post for CCFP.

I also think Chapter Three should include a mention of Adam Brown as the first white settler along Sauk Trail and Chicago Road. He came in 1839 working for a fur trading company. Considered to be the first white resident of this Park Forest, Chicago Heights, Crete area. The Chapter is pretty skimpy on mentions of history on the Illinois side. Picture of Adam Brown marker at Sauk Trail and Chicago Road. The marker along Sauk Trail was originally to Adam Brown, but was changed to mark the Indian Campground, and this marker was placed where Adam actually lived.

It should also be mentioned that this area had a lot of activity on the Underground Railroad, including the McCoy homestead mentioned above, and also other farms along what is now Monee Road in Park Forest. The area was another stop, directing escaped slaves on to the Ton farm along the Calumet.

4. Chapter 3 FEASIBILITY STUDY DRAFT p. 44

Doesn't Anne Keating's charting include Park Forest? If Park Forest is in the area, its statistics should be included with this chart.

5. Building cultures of conservation and placemaking

"Have you always enjoyed musty, old things?" two leaders of the Calumet Heritage Partnership were asked by the moderator of a public affairs show. Here lies one popular view, that heritage is ancient and irrelevant. But environmental and economic development professionals increasingly express the desire to engage communities, to foreground regional assets, and to build regional identity by connecting to living regional heritage. [Awkward. Suggest "to bring regional assets into the foreground" "Foreground" doesn't work for me as a verb.]

6. Park Forest should be included. See Jane Nicoll's suggestions below.

Calumet Heritage section: At a time when the formation of Chicago's Black Belt was in full swing in the Bronzeville area, only a few places in the Calumet region attracted a significant portion of African-Americans. Only Gary and Phoenix, Illinois contained a larger concentration than the City of Chicago's 6.9%. How to adequately house this burgeoning population of workers and their families and to build up a satisfying urban infrastructure was a question that occasionally drew nationally significant answers.

Landmark planned communities include Solon Beman's Pullman, Charles van Doren Shaw's Marktown, and East Chicago's Sunnyside community. When Gary was developed in 1906, it represented an extraordinary opportunity to lay out an industrial development and a related town on modern planning principles. But many contemporary observers felt that US Steel missed the chance to make an urban planning mark. As Graham Taylor wrote, "While it may fall short in its community features, there are those who see in it an extraordinary degree of industrial strategy." Industrial priorities included monopolizing the lakefront for industrial use, building an infrastructure-rich enclave for executives, and leaving much of the low-income housing provision for immigrant and African American labor deliberately to the margins. South of the Wabash tracks, "The Patch" had no paved roads, water, or sewer and quickly became a slum. In the words of historian James Lane, "because of U.S. Steel's limited concept of town planning, two strikingly different Garys emerged: one neat and scenic, the other chaotic and squalid." Some housing in the region was innovative, such as the concrete Edison Concept Houses in Gary and Frank Lloyd Wright's Foster House and Stable in the Stewart Ridge community of Chicago. But more often than not housing was built through the private market with a growing mixture of vernacular styles and sizes. In the first decades of industrialization, residential communities developed near the factory gates – including in Pullman and Marktown. After electric streetcars became common in the 1890s, those who could afford it tended to move away from the smoke, sound, and smell of the factory. In the South Chicago area, for example, the neighborhood of the "Bush" was most beset by noise and smoke from the nearby South Works; those who could afford to migrated to the East Side, long "considered a suburb" of South Chicago. The Woodmar subdivision of Hammond allowed residents to move "out of the smoke zone and into the ozone." Streets along which the streetcars ran were lined with shops, offices, and public buildings. Notable among them were Commercial in South Chicago, Hohman in Hammond, and Broadway in Gary.

Automobiles became relatively common in the Calumet district after about 1920, and more widespread after World War II. Of course they spawned "roadside America" landscapes common elsewhere in the United States, and not particularly unique to the Calumet. What it did increasingly signal, however, was the possibility to make a move even further from the factory gates and beyond the reach of the streetcars. Factory gates themselves needed to include extensive areas of parking for commuting workers.

Chapter 3 FEASIBILITY STUDY DRAFT p. 47

Moving away became one response to racial issues. Struggles erupted over schooling, housing, and politics that had national resonance. In an era when post-World War II African American migration continued to climb, already limited housing options were further closed off through discriminatory real estate and lending practices, violence, and legally enforced segregation through restrictive covenants. African-American settlement in the region was typically confined to discrete districts like mid-town Gary, the "Millgate" in South Chicago, or the pioneering "All-Negro Town" of Robbins, Illinois. In 1917, to answer the housing demand by a growing population of African Americans in Gary, U.S. Steel constructed an entire segregated district – the "Steel Mill Quarter". In 1945, the historic but isolated Altgeld Gardens housing project was built in Chicago to house returning African American veterans. Conflict in Chicago's steelmaking Trumbull Park neighborhood emerged in 1953 when Black families attempted to move into public housing. This and other hostile reactions to an integrated racial pattern of public housing provision triggered a response by city authorities that, according to Arnold

Hirsch, led to "making the second ghetto." Richard Hatcher's election as the first African American Mayor in America in Gary in 1967 sped these processes of white flight and the creation of a "dual metropolis" that were already underway. The duality settled into place just as the boom in steel industry employment was coming to end.

Park Forest, since included, should be mentioned in this section:

Park Forest, Illinois, built for and marketed to returning World War II veterans, was settled by mostly white residents beginning in 1948. Park Forest was the first fully-planned post-World War II suburb, still studied around the world as an example of urban planning. It is easy, in this modern age to think of "integration" as only including African Americans and Latinos. Despite rampant real estate restrictive covenants against Jews in this era of the "Gentleman's Agreement" the mostly Jewish developers allowed them to rent and buy. Many of these were chemists and engineers with Standard Oil in Whiting, or employees of Argonne National Laboratory, first on the University of Chicago campus. Several citizens had worked on the Atomic Bomb. Several were leaders in the development of alternative uses of nuclear energy, such as radiation therapy for cancer. Eventually, three Jewish congregations served the community, which Gans wrote about in Commentary as "The Jewish Suburb." Asians were allowed in the rentals, or to build in the custom homes area. They could not buy in the "homes for sale" area. Latino families from South Chicago arrived in the mid-1950s. The first African American family was allowed in December 1959, helped by the first Japanese to build. Three years later, more African American families followed, encouraged by Kennedy's Fair Housing Act?[proper name?] of [1963?]. Park Forest became one of the few suburbs where African Americans were welcomed, and where a balance of integration was purposefully maintained for several decades through "Integration Maintenance".

It should be noted that Park Forest absorbed residents who left Roseland, South Chicago, South Shore, Gary and other areas where balanced diversity had not prevailed.]

I am assuming the Thorn Creek Basin folks have addressed text about this region in your remnant wetlands and natural areas section. They were meeting to do so. See below this excerpt:

Remnant wetlands and natural areas. Wetlands had a chance to survive if they were located at some remove from the main watercourses and from the major rail junctions. Even here, however, “survival” might just be a phase in a cycle of land acquisition, subdivision, construction, abandonment, and/or neglect. Indian Ridge Marsh at 122nd Street and Torrence Avenue in Chicago – a haven for marsh birds—was a platted subdivision for most of the twentieth century that was never...

Jane Nicoll Suggestion: Expanding on what Chuck Dieringer has suggested, the Park Forest Historical Society and Thorn Creek Nature Center would be able to supply text on the establishment of the Thorn Creek Nature Preserve, which occupies a significant area of Will County in Park Forest and University Park, and extending to Monee, Illinois. Thorn Creek Nature Center is on Monee Road in Park Forest. It was hard-won and certainly deserves mention in your section on nature preserves and watersheds.

Park Forest also operates the Wetlands Reclamation area in what is known as Central Park. For more information on that you should contact Rob Gunther, director of Park Forest Recreation and Parks at rgunther@vopf.com, and via 708-748-1112.

Other things that should be included in your document about Park Forest’s unique history [excuse my rant on signage for your purposes]:

Park Forest is also home to the Park Forest Rail Fan Park, co-funded by Matteson, IL, Park Forest and CNN Railroad. A viewing platform has been built, with, to my opinion, the least informative Interpretive Signage possible from a Park Forest or Matteson history standpoint, to view the turnaround built to reverse direction of trains on the CNN Railroad tracks. Apparently this is one of the few of these in the country. Another is in Rochelle, IL. Rail Fans do visit this all the time to photograph the turning trains.

For the historical society, it would be preferable if signs told these tourists that Park Forest exists-- just down the street; what it’s historical significance is in the history of mid-twentieth century architecture, City Planning, and shopping center history; and that it was the subject of William H. Whyte’s *Organization Man* in 1956, and of Gregory Randall’s, *America’s Original GI Town* in 2000 (both of which are used as textbooks around the world.) More on Matteson’s history would be appreciated by them as well, and a note that there is a Matteson Historical Society to be visited, or that the town exists!

It would have been preferable if they mentioned that the Park Forest Historical Society exists, documenting the Park Forest history including the Shopping Center history as one of the first or second shopping centers in the world, and with one of the first movie theaters put in a shopping center (still standing but not open); and home to the first Marshall Field’s (now gone) ever built in a shopping center. Philip M. Klutznick, President of American Community Builders also went on to build River Oaks—also taking Marshall Field’s there; and his son, Thomas was a partner with Kerasotes in building the theater there, which officially began the trend of building theaters as part of shopping centers. Klutznick and Urban Development Corporation went on to build Oak Brook, Old Orchard and Water Tower Place, all with Marshall Field’s as anchor.

Park Forest Historical Society also operates the 1950s Park Forest House Museum, 227 Monee Road, which represents an original rental townhome as it might have looked in the first five years of the village, 1948-1953. Tour guides tell the history of how Park Forest came to be and talk about social and fashion trends of

the period. It would have been preferable to have any signage promoting all of these things at a tourism site on the edge of town which is attracting tourists from around the country. Tourists could come in to town and eat, tour this historic village, which also consists of architecture discussed around the world, and visit the museum and archive.

I am copying into this a History of Thorn Creek Nature Preserve written by Judy Dolan Mendelson, I believe, possibly by Marcy Marzuki, whose parents were also involved with John and Judy Mendelson and many others in getting this preserve established.

A Short History of Friends of Thorn Creek Woods aka Thorn Creek Preservation Association

Friends of Thorn Creek began in the 1960s as a group of Park Forest neighbors, most living along Monee Road, Stuenkel Road and Oakhill Drive near the woods, that started meeting at each other’s houses and urging the village to create a greenbelt around Park Forest. The group explored the woods and came to believe the whole woods, some 900 acres was worthy of preservation.

It was an idea that was immediately challenged since developers, looking to take advantage of new federal tax incentives offered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, had targeted the central and southern parts of the woods for housing, plus an expressway was planned to bisect the woods.

The group, incorporated in 1969 as the Thorn Creek Preservation Association, mounted a multi-pronged campaign to preserve the woods: get agencies to purchase the land; have all local and state agencies include Thorn Creek in their open space planning and to actively support its preservation; and reach out to experts to confirm what TCPA believed – that Thorn Creek Woods was special and should be off limits to development. And woven through all these tasks was getting public and political support.

TCPA worked with botanists and ecologists from the universities and groups like Open Lands Project, NIPC (Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission), Thorn Creek Audubon Society and Sierra Club. These experts confirmed that the woods represented a rare glimpse of pre-settlement woodland landscape worthy of preservation.

TCPA members donned hiking boots and walked the woods with representatives of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, the Department of Conservation, Lieutenant Governor Paul Simon, Governor Richard Ogilvie, Representative Edward Derwinski, Speaker Robert Blair, many state and village officials and local school groups – guiding and educating them about the woods. TCPA attended meetings, wrote letters and made phone calls to both political parties, local governments, schools and other agencies to bring political and public pressure to preserve the woods. The early support of the Village of Park Forest was critical to these efforts, notably Bernard Cunningham, Ralph Johnson, Mayer Singerman, Bob Pierce and John Joyce.

It soon became clear that no one agency would be able to buy the entire woods, so TCPA focused on convincing a number of agencies to acquire separate parcels, and just as importantly, devise ways that all these parcels could be managed as a unified whole and permanently protected.

The TCPA spearheaded the complex negotiations for purchase of the woods, which eventually resulted in the Villages of Park Forest and University Park, the Forest Preserve District of Will County and the Illinois Department of Conservation all owning acreage. The land was acquired over the years utilizing various grants and lawsuits, and some of the acreage was transferred from New Community Enterprises in the HUD settlement

The Association worked hard to ensure that the woods were

managed as one single entity even though there were multiple land owners, and to ensure that the citizen group would be actively involved in whatever management decisions were made. To this end, a Park Forest member whose house bordered the woods donated a foot of their land so that the TPCA qualified as a land-owning entity in this new-fangled inter-governmental management commission. It took several years to finalize this agreement, and in 1977 the Management Commission took its current form composed of the villages, forest preserve and TPCA - continuing citizen input to this day.

With green streamers flying from the nature center steeple, the woods was dedicated as an Illinois Nature Preserve on June 4, 1978 – permanently protecting the land, its plants and animals for nature study and hiking.

In the 1980's, the Association changed its name to Friends of Thorn Creek Woods to better reflect its ongoing stewardship of the woods. Over the years, 1500 people have worked as volunteers to acquire land, build and maintain three and a half miles of trails, study and record different plants and animals in the woods, and deliver nature education programs to children and adults. In 1972 a civil war era church building was donated and in 1976 was opened to the public as a nature center developed by TPCA and the Village of Park Forest.

What is now a 985 acre preserve began with just a handful of Park Forest neighbors who gathered together and looked across the street from their homes and saw something wild, something unique and something worth fighting for. Thanks to their efforts, generations to come will be able to come here and see the very same thing.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 23

Does the study capture what is nationally significant about the Calumet region?

To some extent. But, from my perspective as a Stakeholder in the Thorn Creek Watershed, which is, the Flashiest Sub-Watershed (according to the US Weather Bureau) that connects to Calumet region, via the Little Calumet. (<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/publications/documents/00000723.pdf>) It provides surface water for both Lake Michigan and Illinois River. The Silt from the thousand acre - Thorn Creek Nature Preserve, travels to New Orleans, but when severe storms hit this Watershed, Lake Michigan gets our forest debris. At Thornton, a water-powered saw mill provided the timber form the Thorn Creek Watershed to rebuild Chicago. In the Calumet Region, we are spoiled by the presence of a Surface Water Resource which is vulnerable to pollution. More attention needs to be given to protecting and recharging the Ground Water Resources which were depleted by the previous Industrial Center at Chicago Heights. The well water usage created a 1600 foot Cone of Depression which has been recharged, but recently, the refinery at Griffith established a Crude Oil Pipe Line that crosses our Watershed. A failure during a major storm event will see that Crude in Lake Michigan in about an hour. Illinois has developed a great Infrastructure Educational Tool, the Resource Management Mapping Service (rmms.illinois.edu) now maintained by the Clean Water Act, and section of the USEPA.

Are the key pieces of the region's story present?

To some extent, but the role of the Illinois portion is greatly underplayed by not extending the proposed Western Boundary to include (1) the entire Thorn Creek Watershed. All Federal efforts and future financial support, should be on a Watershed Basis. Although the Creator of the Clean Water Act, (Dr. John Sheaffer, passed last December) was not a Stake Holder of the Thorn Creek

Watershed, he created the Water Re-use project in Cortland, Illinois, on the Kishwaukee River (<http://www.ifishillinois.org/profiles/Kishwaukee.php>) a Class A Stream, and authored numerous books on Sustainability. (Whatever happened to Eden, October, 1980; The Water Factory, 2006. He also has been to the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District (<http://thorncreekbasin.org/history.htm>) the operation of which provides incentive for Salmon to attempt to spawn near Bloom High School. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMBHOqoK-NM>). (2) These salmon are presently blocked from the upper reaches of Thorn Creek by a 23 foot high Rock Dam (from the Thornton Quarry) which was brought there by Rail that serviced the Chicago Heights Steel Manufacturing Center. The Dam was constructed in 1927 to retain Sauk Lake for recreation, and throttle back Thorn Creek. Sauk Trail Lake also provided a temporary living resource for the Italian Migration to this area. If the '30 inch drain were opened', the salmon could migrate to the Thorn Creek 1000 Acre Nature Preserve. Thorn Creek descends from Monee, at 20 feet per mile to this Dam which can be converted at comparative little cost to a Detention Facility. This would allow the Salmon to pass to upstream habitat and also allow the Accumulated Silt to migrate downstream. The Deer Creek (sub watershed of Thorn Creek), has an Open Dam, which drained Deer Lake at Lincolnshire. It should be restricted to provide Water Detention and Water Recharge for an area dependent upon Ground Water. That Open Dam also facilitates flooding at Ford Heights where the Ford Stamping Plant is located. Adjacent to Ford is the Old Plank Trail (<https://www.trailink.com/trail/old-plank-road-trail/>) which currently has a missing link to Dyer.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 27

Are the key pieces of the region's story present?

Yes, with the caveat that the map illustrating the Calumet Heritage Area's story should clearly include the areas discussed in the text, for example:

1. Lake Calumet, a navigable waterway, which was filled by Pullman to create the town,
2. Calumet River including where it flows into Lake Michigan and the location of the latest lakefill: the Confined Disposal Facility filled with spoil dredged from the River itself;
3. The location of the USX steel mill which was created by Lake Michigan slag;
4. Southshore Railroad with its terminal in Chicago,
5. In the discussion of the Sauk/Vincennes Trail, it would be helpful if more of Chicago's Lake Michigan shoreline were shown as part of the Calumet Heritage Area. The text states: "In Chicago the boundary continues 3 miles west of Vincennes until it reaches 67th Street where it returns to the Lake Shore along the southern boundary of Jackson Park." And there is also mention of Ft. Dearborn constructed at the river bend of Lake Michigan, prior to the Canal Commission's laying out the Town of Chicago in 1830.

In turn you mention DuSable in relation to Indiana, but don't mention that DuSable has been recognized as the founder of Chicago and that he had a trading post on what is now Michigan Ave.

The current draft feasibility study for Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative includes these reference points. My recommendation is that the illustrative map include these reference points, for they contribute to the Calumet Heritage Area Story.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 30

The Historic Pullman Foundation (HPF) was not identified in the list of Resource Organization. It has played a major role in the preservation of Historic Pullman since 1973. The HPF saved the Hotel Florence in 1975, made significant improvements and welcomed visitors year round until 2000 when the IHPA took over operation of the building. The HPF and PCO lead the effort to save the Clock Tower following the tragic fire in 1998. It lead to the Taskforce Study and eventual reconstruction of the Clock Tower and Administration Building. The HPF has cosponsored the Annual Historic Pullman House Tour with the Pullman Civic Organization for the past 43 years. The tour generates the funds for preservation projects and the façade grants to historic home owners.

The HPF has owned and operated the Historic Pullman Visitor Center for the past 24 years, welcoming and informing visitors from around the world to the Pullman National Historic Landmark District as well as providing vital exhibits, programs, and meeting place for the Pullman Civic Organization and other organizations. The HPF Visitor Center was the site of press conferences and many of the meetings and programs leading to the designation of the Pullman National Monument. The Pullman National Monument Visitor Information Center is in the Historic Pullman Visitor Center is owned and operated by the Historic Pullman Foundation. The HPF is hosting the National Park Service in the Visitor Center for the first three years of the Pullman National Monument to facilitate early visitor services. Visit HPF website at www.pullmanil.org to learn more and also visit our Facebook page. Why was and is the work of Historic Pullman Foundation ignored or suppressed in this study?

Extended Comments by Submission Number 32

Did we miss anything of national significance?

There are two items which I believe can augment the history. My perspective is from with the City of East Chicago, where I have lived and worked for almost forty-five years. 1. Religious institutions and practices for Calumet National Heritage Area. As white ethnics have moved out of the cities of Gary, Hammond, East Chicago and Whiting, a number of historic churches have been torn down. Number two, originally sent to Board Member Tiffany Tolbert, also of Indiana Landmarks, tells some of that history of East Chicago. Should the Board want to address these issues, I offer my services. 2. Preservation of Holy Trinity Hungarian Church, possible site to highlight religious history of Lake County. This parish celebrated its last worship service this last September or October. The rectory and parish hall may provide a site for a homeless shelter. The church, at the corner of 148th and Alexander, three blocks from the Riley Insurance Building, is 90-95 years old. Please look at the outside. I can probably arrange a visit to the inside. It occurred to me that that church is an excellent candidate for preservation. The importance is not only the structure but the histories of the communities which worshipped, educated, celebrated family life and other significant events. The economy of this area drew the ethnic Americans. The economy provided the resources to build the local religious institutions. The economy provided the resources for the families to move throughout the Region. The church is solid and generally in good condition, except for its tower. The pastor, Alphonse Skerl, is 87, just recently retired, and still working at St Margaret Mercy Hospital, Hammond. The church might well become a link with the multi-ethnic Catholic (and other) churches which had life here in East Chicago. As of now the church is

probably scheduled for demolition as has been the history of a Black Catholic Church, two Polish churches, St. Joseph and St. John Kantius, a Lithuanian Church, St. Francis of Assisi, two Slovak churches, Assumption and Sacred Heart, and one Italian church, Immaculate Conception. All these churches have been terminated during my forty-five years in East Chicago. Bishop Donald Hying, if made aware of the Calumet National Heritage Area, may be convinced to dedicate one of the structures, such as Holy Trinity Hungarian, to celebrate the ethnic history of East Chicago, Hammond and Gary in one remaining structure. These are some of the factoids which I was discussing with you on Friday, as I was beginning to review the Feasibility Study Draft. Tom Hocker, local photographer, had a lot of picture of these and other churches. East Chicago, while it still has one active Serbian Orthodox church, had a number of beautiful Orthodox churches.

Extended Comments by Submission Number 34

I think the Calumet National Heritage Area draft is beautiful – visually - and it is very comprehensive, with a few exceptions. I have read it carefully and have some suggestions.

The first suggestion I have is for the photo on page 22, Chapter 2. I would identify the artist, Roman Villarreal and the man with him - “Roman Villarreal; artist, on the left, is shown with Michael Boos.”

Whether or not you name Wolf Lake Initiative w/Michael Boos, is up to you. I personally like to know who people in photographs are.

Also I noticed that there is an absence of visual art organizations and I have made a list—where you place them is up to you. I am still probably forgetting some. All of these organizations, not in any order, have been established at their respective sites for many year.

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN

The Drama Group, Chicago Heights, IL

Hobart Arts League, Hobart, IN

Chesterton Arts League, Chesterton, IN

Tall Grass Art Assoc., Park Forest, IL

Union Street Gallery, Chicago Heights, IL

White Ripple Arts, Hammond, IN

Southern Shore Art Gallery, Michigan City, IN

Franklin Arts District Artists, Michigan City, IN

South Shore Arts, Munster, IN

And there are summer art festivals, to name a few -

Art in the Park, Griffith, IN – sponsored by Griffith Park District

Lake Front Art Festival – sponsored by Lubeznik Center, Michigan City, IN

Chesterton Art Fair – sponsored by Chesterton Arts Center, Chesterton, IN

Park Forest Art Fair - (not sure of the sponsor), Park Forest, IL

Then there are arts organizations w/o buildings; such as: 18 Artists, Illiana Artists, SALC and one in Dyer, IN whose name I do not know. Hope you can find some way to work these names into the final version.

A total of 77 organizations, business entities, governmental officials, and subject matter experts submitted letters in support of the Calumet region's national significance and its designation as a National Heritage Area. Below is a listing of letters received at the time of publication. A complete list is available at CalumetHeritage.org.

Legislative Offices

Congresswoman Robin Kelly, 2nd District, Illinois
Congressman Peter J. Visclosky, 1st District, Indiana

Regional Organizations

Calumet Collaborative
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring Inventory (NIRMI)
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC)
South Shore Clean Cities
The Wetlands Initiative

Local Government

Chicago Park District
City of Blue Island
City of Gary, Green Urbanism Division
City of Michigan City
Forest Preserves of Cook County
Gary Historic Preservation Commission
Hammond Public Library's Local History Room
Lake County Parks
Sanitary District of Michigan City
South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
Town of Ogden Dunes
Village of Dolton
Village of Homewood Heritage Committee
Village of Park Forest

Businesses, Media, and Economic Development Organizations

Calumet Area Industrial Commission
City Forest Products, LLC
Indiana Dunes Tourism
Lakeshore Public Media
Mortar Net Solutions
Doug Ross, *The Times of Northwest Indiana*
The Antero Group

Philanthropic Foundations

Ford Hangar Foundation
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Legacy Foundation

Colleges and Universities

Calumet College of St. Joseph
Indiana University Northwest, Calumet Regional Archives
Prairie State College
Purdue University Northwest

South Metro Higher Ed Consortium
University of Chicago, Program on Global Environment
Valparaiso University

National Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Chicago Heights
League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region
League of Women Voters of La Porte County
National Parks Conservation Association
The Nature Conservancy
Urban League of Northwest Indiana
Wild Ones, Gibson Woods Chapter #38

Historical, Cultural, Recreational, and Environmental Organizations

Alliance for the Great Lakes
Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative
Blue Island Historical Society
Cedar Lake Historical Association
Dunes Learning Center
Friends of Big Marsh
Friends of the Forest Preserves
Gary Historical & Cultural Society, Inc.
Historical Society of Ogden Dunes
Homewood Historical Society
Landmarks Illinois (LPCI)
Lansing Historical Society
National A. Philip Randolph Porter Museum
Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Project
Openlands
Save the Dunes
Shirley Heinze Land Trust
Spotlighting Southeast Chicago and Northwest Indiana
South Shore Arts
South Shore Trails
South Suburban Heritage Association
Southeast Chicago Historical Society
Thornton Historical Society
United Urban Network

Subject Matter Experts

Robert J. Boklund, MSES, La Porte County Conservation Trust
Michael Innis-Jimenez, Ph. D., University of Alabama
Ann Durkin Keating, Ph.D., North Central College
S. Paul O'Hara, Ph. D., Xavier University
Kenneth J. Schoon, Ph. D., Indiana University Northwest (Emeritus)
Christine J. Walley, Ph. D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MEMBER, NATIONAL SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MEMBER, WESTERN HEMISPHERE
MEMBER, TERRORISM, NONPROLIFERATION,
AND TRADE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1302

ROBIN L. KELLY
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DISTRICT OFFICE
600 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE
SUITE 505
MATTESON, IL 60443
(708) 679-0078
WEBSITE: www.RobinKelly.house.gov

April 20, 2017

Mr. Mark Bouman
The Field Museum
1400 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Mr. Bouman:

I commend and support your efforts to complete a feasibility study seeking federal designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area stretching roughly from the Pullman National Monument in Chicago to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

The unique history and geography of the Calumet Region – a patchwork quilt of industry, nature and transportation, stitched together by neighbors in a world-class melting pot – is representative and reflective of a great American story that is well worth preserving and sharing for all forever.

Featuring a number of nationally significant treasures, from Pullman to massive steel mills, from the Dunes to Lake Michigan, from urban wetlands to rare birds, plants and animals, the Calumet Region straddles the Illinois-Indiana state line just south of Chicago. I believe that a National Heritage Area designation would help preserve the landscape, promote education and recreation, and enhance opportunities for area residents as well as visitors.

The South Side of Chicago is quietly becoming a tourism destination, with the aforementioned assets plus the soon-to-be constructed Obama Presidential Library and Museum. The signage and publicity that often accompany National Heritage Areas will create synergy and linkages between these many assets and chronicle the cultural richness of the region's distinct heritage.

I wish you the best in this undertaking and I look forward to working with the entire team that's been working for years to create the Calumet National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

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PETER J. VISCLOSKY
1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES
RANKING MEMBER, DEFENSE
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
CONGRESSIONAL STEEL CAUCUS
VICE CHAIRMAN
U.S. HOUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT
CAUCUS

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<http://visclosky.house.gov>

June 21, 2017

Mr. Michael Reynolds
Acting Director
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

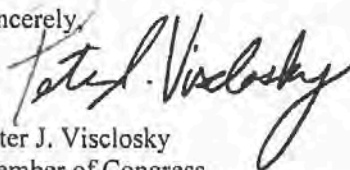
I write today to share my support for the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The significance of the Calumet Region, along the southern shore of Lake Michigan, to our nation's history is reflected in the landscape of Indiana's First Congressional District. Over a hundred years ago, people like John D. Rockefeller, J.P. Morgan, and Elbert Gary invested in the economic infrastructure of Northwest Indiana and created one of the most efficient and productive industrial regions in the world. Our steel mills built America, sustained it during world wars, and our refineries fuel industry and ingenuity alike. At the other end of the spectrum, this district also is home to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, where globally rare plants and animals exist among these industries. These magnificent dunes and their accompanying vegetation are what drew Henry Cowles, considered the father of plant ecology, to our region, which proves to be one of the most biodiverse holdings within the National Park Service's system.

The Calumet Region's rich industrial, ecological, and culturally diverse heritages are worthy of a designation that allows residents and visitors the opportunity to learn about this unique area of our country. The designation of the Pullman National Monument in 2015, in Chicago, provides an exceptional bookend to the boundaries of the proposed heritage area. As provided, the feasibility study demonstrates the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

I know you will give this proposal the serious consideration it deserves. If you are in need of any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress

PJV:cj

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June 30, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Calumet Collaborative submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of the Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case of the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a strong region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The Calumet Collaborative feels so strongly about a Calumet National Heritage Area that it has identified supporting a CNHA as one of its four key initiatives. The Calumet Collaborative catalyzes innovative partnerships between Illinois and Indiana community, government, business and nonprofit stakeholders to advance a thriving Calumet region. We are fostering a new level of collaboration in sustainable development and are prepared to lead in partnership with the Calumet Heritage Partnership.

A CNHA would allow us to work towards our goals in a multitude of facets from building a bi-state regional dialogue to economic improvements with tourism and ecotourism. It could make the most of the "triple bottom line" that enhances economy, builds community and protects the environment. It could aid in attracting and retaining residents and a workforce that value a high quality of life as well as identify new opportunities and growth to continue to develop this area.

If called upon, the Calumet Collaborative would contribute varied services and staff support to make a CNHA effort a success. The Calumet Collaborative offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnerships in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Coulter', written over a circular stamp.

Sarah Coulter
Acting Executive Director
Calumet Collaborative



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606
312-454-0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

April 24, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

CMAP is the official regional planning organization for the seven northeastern Illinois counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. CMAP developed and now guides implementation of metropolitan Chicago's comprehensive regional plan, GO TO 2040, and has begun development of the region's next comprehensive plan, ON TO 2050. The ON TO 2050 regional plan will establish coordinated strategies to help the region's seven counties and 284 communities address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. See www.cmap.illinois.gov for more information.

CMAP supports the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with several of our goals. Our organization seeks to create an inclusive region with economic prosperity for all, which requires a special focus on the challenges faced by the Calumet region. We also believe in the importance of environmental conservation, and recognize the unique ecological value of the Calumet.

CMAP offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Szabo
Executive Director

Board Members

Gerald Bennett, Chair
Rita Athas
Frank Beal
Matt Brolley
Franco Coladipietro
Janel Forde
Elliott Hartstein
Al Larson
Andrew Madigan
John Noak
Rick Reinbold
William Rodeghier
Carolyn Schofield
Peter Silvestri
Peter Skosey

Non-voting Members

Sean McCarthy
Brian Oszakiewski
Leanne Redden

Executive Director

Joseph C. Szabo



June 15, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program (IISG) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future which enhances quality of life.

The mission of IISG is to improve environmental integrity through applied research, state and local decision support, community assistance, and education programs. Our programs and products are science-based and provide an unbiased and neutral perspective on Great Lakes issues. We measure our progress by monitoring changes in knowledge, behavior, policy, and the environment.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of IISG and would further our work to enhance workforce development as well as build a sustainable and economical economy while preserving and enhancing our surrounding natural areas. Some of our initiatives in the Calumet Region include tourism, LID and green infrastructure initiatives, sustainable fisheries and developing a volunteer watershed stewardship program.

If called upon, IISG would contribute staff time and support, space and services to the Calumet NHA effort to further its success.

IISG offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continuing our partnership in this crucial and exciting initiative.

Sincerely,

Leslie E. Dorworth
Aquatic Ecology Specialist
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant



May 15, 2017

Mark J. Bouman,
Ph.D. Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum 1400 S.
Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring Inventory (NIRMI, nirmi.org) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of NIRMI is to monitor ecological restorations in the region intensively and systematically and as such our goals align very well with the mission of the Calumet National Heritage Area. Together, we will further our work to be stewards of the region.

If called upon, NIRMI would contribute expertise and support where possible to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The NIRMI offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Peter Avis, PhD
Chief Director,
Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring Inventory (NIRMI)
www.nirmi.org
Indiana University Northwest
Biology Department



6100 Southport Road
Portage, Indiana 46368
(219) 763-6060
www.nirpc.org

May 12, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

As Executive Director of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), I submit this letter in enthusiastic support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The Calumet National Heritage is a regional project of the *Marquette Plan 2015: The Lakeshore Reinvestment Strategy*, which NIRPC developed with the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority and Indiana Landmarks.

As specified, in that plan, a Calumet National Heritage Area would connect the Pullman National Monument and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The creation of the Calumet National Heritage Area would not only allow these assets to be promoted nationally, but would also assist with keeping the heritage of the Calumet region alive, as the region continues to evolve economically. It would lay the groundwork for the creation of a bi-state mechanism to facilitate heritage identification and support, coordinate locally-based heritage tourism, and promote the history and narrative of the Calumet region.

In that vein, it is the recommendation of the *Marquette Plan 2015* to support the bi-state effort to establish a Calumet National Heritage Area, and NIRPC will continue to lend its expertise and staff resources to help make the Calumet National Heritage Area effort a success.

Sincerely,

Tyson Warner AICP
Executive Director



South Shore Clean Cities
123 N. Main Street, Suite #202
Crown Point, IN 46307
Office: 219-644-3690
Fax: 219-209-3611
info@southshorecleancities.org
www.southshorecleancities.org

June 16, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

South Shore Clean Cities submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of South Shore Clean Cities is to reduce dependence on imported oil!

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of South Shore Clean Cities and would further our work to assist the area with improved air quality and enhanced quality of life!

If called upon, South Shore Clean Cities would contribute in-kind hours and collaboration to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

South Shore Clean Cities offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Carl Lisek
Executive Director
South Shore Clean Cities

123 N. Main Street, Suite #202 | Crown Point, IN 46307 | (219) 644-3690 | info@southshorecleancities.org



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Clark L. Wagner

April 19, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.

Chicago Region Program Director, the Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

The Wetlands Initiative enthusiastically supports designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The unique combination of natural assets and industrial and cultural heritage found in the bi-state Calumet region comprise a nationally significant resource. The region hosts a wide range of stories that deserve to be shared with residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

Founded in 1994, the Wetlands Initiative is dedicated to restoring the wetland resources of the Midwest to improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat and biodiversity, and reduce flood damage. We are pursuing exciting new projects in the Calumet region to restore some of the high-quality wetlands which historically hosted globally-rare native species and ecological communities. There is no place else where wetlands restoration of this range and caliber is taking place right next to cultural and historical resources as in the Calumet region.

The Wetlands Initiative's work and partnerships in the Calumet region are growing rapidly, and we are not alone in that regard. For a list of potential projects, see pages 67-69 of the Feasibility Study. A Calumet NHA would help all of these efforts grow and succeed. We fully support the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and look forward to continued partnership in this unique region.

Sincerely,

Paul Botts
President and Executive Director



Administration Office
541 North Fairbanks Ct.
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(312) 742-7529
(312) 742-2003 (TTY)
www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

Jesse H. Ruiz
President

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Vice President

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Tim King
M. Laird Koldyke

Michael P. Kelly

City of Chicago
Rahm Emanuel
Mayor

2014 National
Gold Medal Winner
for Excellence in Park and
Recreation Management

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M. Freer

Assistant Director of Landscape – Natural Areas

541 N. Fairbanks Ct. Chicago, IL 60611

p: 312.742.4122

May 18, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.

Chicago Region Program Director

Keller Science Action Center

The Field Museum

1400 S. Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Chicago Park District submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Chicago Park District is to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leading provider of recreation and leisure opportunities. Some of our unique and significant assets to this end exist within the NHA footprint, assets including large natural areas protecting remnant habitats and sensitive species of wildlife, regionally significant recreational assets like the Bike Park at Big Marsh and culturally significant sites like Steelworkers Park.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Chicago Park District and would further our work in coordinating land management, ecological restoration, land acquisition and trail development. Other goals and priorities that align with the Chicago Park District's include: connecting and enhancing important sub-geographies such as dune & swale habitats as well as river corridors, providing improved access to existing natural areas and protecting coastal waters. Beyond natural resource stewardship our priorities align with CHP to identify the industrial and natural heritage through events and cultural activities, protecting landmarks and historical sites, improving trail connectivity, recreational opportunities and promoting ecotourism.

If called upon, the Chicago Park District would contribute the resources of our parks and programming within the CHP footprint. A special consideration will be provided at our soon-to-be-built Ford Calumet Environmental Center to tell the story of the region's natural and industrial history. I believe these assets will help to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The [organization name] offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Matthew Freer

Assistant Director of Landscape – Natural Areas

Chicago Park District



City of Blue Island
13051 Greenwood Avenue
Blue Island, IL 60406
www.blueisland.org

April 20, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

The City of Blue Island submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

The City of Blue Island has been a dedicated supporter of the Calumet Heritage Partnership (CHP) and the vision for a Calumet NHA. Blue Island staff serves on the CHP board, Blue Island has hosted a CHP conference, the City was a leader among Millennium Reserve communities and serves as a lead agency for the Calumet-Sag Trail.

For these reasons, the City of Blue Island supports the Calumet NHA, which is closely aligned with our comprehensive plan and vision for economic development, image and identity, historic preservation, and natural resources. The proposed Calumet NHA would be a strength to our community, bolstering our goals to leverage heritage assets for community development.

The City of Blue Island will continue to support the Calumet NHA through service on the CHP board, convening local connections and opening City resources for events and activities. We offer our full support for the Calumet National Heritage Area and look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,


Domingo F. Vargas
Mayor

Office of the Mayor

p (708) 597 8602
f (708) 597 1221

City Clerk

p (708) 597 8603
f (708) 396 7602

City Treasurer

p (708) 396 7074
f (708) 597 1807

Building & Code Enforcement

p (708) 597 8606
f (708) 396 2686

Community Development

p (708) 396 7146
f (708) 597 1221

Finance

p (708) 396 7067
f (708) 597 1807

Fire Department

p (708) 396 7071
f (708) 597 1221

Marketing

p (708) 396 7035
f (708) 597 1221

Police Department

p (708) 396 7004
f (708) 597 8223

Public Works

p (708) 597 8604
f (708) 597 4260

Water & Sewer

p (708) 597 8605
f (708) 396 7062

Meadows Golf Club

p (708) 597 8604
f (708) 597 4260



Karen Freeman-Wilson
Mayor

CITY OF GARY
Department of Commerce
Division of Green Urbanism
839 Broadway, N206
Gary, Indiana 46402
(219) 882 3000 / Fax (219) 882 3012

Brenda Scott Henry, Director
bhenry@ci.gary.in.us

May 22, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The City of Gary Department of Green Urbanism and Environmental Affairs submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Green Urbanism and Environmental Affairs is to protect and improve the health of the environment making it a valuable asset for all utilizing environmental services and program activities. Our vision is to pursue a safe, healthy and well protected environment fostered through civic engagement to help advance a sustainable society and economy.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of and would further our local efforts. Gary continues to support Calumet NHA by attending meetings and events. If called upon, Green Urbanism, would contribute in-kind services to include staff volunteer hours for awareness and outreach activities and use of space to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Green Urbanism Division offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brenda Scott Henry".
Brenda Scott Henry, Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY

RON MEER
MAYOR

May 31, 2017

Mark Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The City of Michigan City submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The Calumet region has been shaped by its unique blend of biodiversity, industrial might, and diverse cultural heritage. A federal designation could play a vital role in creating a more resilient region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

Michigan City has long been at the crossroads of the history that makes the Calumet region nationally significant. It was an original port for moving the timber that first built Chicago and it lies near the rail lines that have long linked the industrial east to the American West. Michigan City joined Chicago in producing the rolling stock that helped make America's railroads the envy of the world and is the eastern gateway to the Indiana Dunes National Park and its globally rare ecosystems.

Today, Michigan City continues to celebrate our local and national heritage through preservation of our historic lighthouse, participation in urban conservation initiatives with partners like The Field Museum and Save the Dunes, and programming at Barker Mansion, originally home to our most famous city father who brought rail manufacturing to Michigan City. Contemporary institutions like the Lubeznik Center for the Arts offer a creative perspective on the region's heritage that can help to bridge generational divides.

Michigan City's efforts will only be better served by linking them to a National Heritage Area. The City is prepared to support the National Heritage Area through continued engagement with these sorts of on the ground activities.

We are in full support of the Calumet National Heritage Area effort. We look forward to partnering with you on this important designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ron Meer", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ron Meer
Mayor



May 25, 2017

**TONI PRECKWINKLE,
PRESIDENT**

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Jeffrey R. Tobolski

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

On behalf of the Forest Preserves of Cook County, I am very pleased to submit our letter of support for the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is rich in natural and cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The Forest Preserves of Cook County, one of the oldest and largest public land agencies in the country manages nearly 70,000 acres of public land. We are the largest landowner in the Calumet region and our forest preserves provide people, plants and animals with a much needed refuge. Caring for these lands requires collaboration and we are proud to have a robust history of partnership with many organizations working to restore the ecological health and resilience of the Calumet. Our staff works closely with partners to support ongoing volunteer stewardship activities, environmental education programs, and outdoor recreation activities.

The proposed Calumet Heritage Area aligns closely with our mission to protect and enhance the natural and cultural resources of the forest preserves for the benefit of all who call this region home. The work of the Calumet Heritage Area advances our efforts to work collaboratively to address complex ecological issues such as the restoration of coastal watersheds and to help people develop a strong connection with nature.

Our organization would be pleased to contribute staff time to make the Calumet Natural Heritage Area a success. We offer our full support for this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

Arnold Randall
General Superintendent



GARY COMMON COUNCIL
City of Gary
REBECCA WYATT
1ST DISTRICT COUNCILWOMAN

May 15, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Gary, Indiana, Historic Preservation Commission submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of the Gary Historic Preservation Commission is to not only preserve Gary's built environment, but also its unique natural environment adjoining Lake Michigan.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Gary Historic Preservation Commission in many ways.

If called upon, the Gary Historic Preservation Commission would contribute technical expertise, space, and services to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

We offer our full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wyatt
Councilwoman, 1st District

401 BROADWAY, SUITE 209 ✱ GARY, INDIANA 46402 ✱ PHONE 219.881.1315 ✱ FAX 219.881.1339
WWW.CI.GARY.IN.US/COMMONCOUNCIL





Executive Director: René L. Greenleaf

Hammond Public Library • 564 State Street • Hammond, IN • 46320-1532

(219) 931-5100

www.hammond.lib.in.us

June 9, 2019

Mark Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Hammond Public Library's Local History Room submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of the Local History Room has been to serve as a liaison between the Hammond, Indiana community and the Calumet Region Partnership through networking, meetings, and local feedback. We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Hammond Public Library's Local History Room and would further our work in protecting the cultural and historic significance of the Calumet Region.

The Hammond Public Library's Local History Room offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. If called upon, the Hammond Public Library's Local History Room would contribute space and staff support to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Amanda L. Aguilera
Local History Librarian
Hammond Public Library | Hammond, IN

Administrative Services: x300
Fax: (219) 931-3474

Information Services: x333
Fax: (219) 852-2222
Infodesk@hammond.lib.in.us

Circulation Services: x340

Youth Services: x336



8411 E. Lincoln Hwy. • Crown Point, IN 46307
219.769.7275 • Fax: 219.945.0452

Bellaboo's
219-963-2070

Buckley Homestead
219-696-0769

Cedar Creek
219-365-2902

Deep River
219-947-1958

Deep River Waterpark
219-947-7850

Gibson Woods
219-844-3188

Grand Kankakee Marsh
219-552-0033

Lake Eita
219-944-9601
Banquets - 219-949-6533

Lemon Lake
219-663-7627

Oak Ridge Prairie
219-884-7238

Stoney Run
219-996-6500

Three Rivers
219-962-7810

Turkey Creek C.C.
219-980-8101
Pro Shop - 219-980-5170
Banquets - 219-887-3550

Reservations - 219-769-7275

May 4, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Lake County Parks submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Lake County Parks is to create and responsibly manage a county-wide system of parks and open space resources, and to provide recreational, cultural and educational programs based on these resources for the use and enjoyment of all Lake County residents and visitors.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Lake County Parks and would further our work to preserve rare landscapes, provide park programs, connect open space parcels for recreation, and provide access to the Lake Michigan Shoreline.

If called upon, Lake County Parks would contribute staff, meeting spaces, park sites, financial support, and park services to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

Established: June 1, 1968

"A Natural Place For Fun"





May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2946

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Sanitary District of Michigan City submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to the globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role in this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of the Sanitary District of Michigan City was created to provide the efficient...

- Collection, conveyance and treatment of wastewater;
- Management of biosolids and residuals;
- Collection and disposal of refuse, trash and garbage ; and
- Drainage of storm water through best management practices;

In order to achieve the multiple goals of:

- Protecting the public health, safety and welfare of our community;
- Supporting economic and community growth; and,
- Protecting the designated uses for the Trail Creek Watershed and Lake Michigan through environmental stewardship

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Sanitary District of Michigan City and would further our work to expand and enhance the Districts environmental educational outreach efforts to:

- Foster greater ecological awareness among school groups and youth in general
- Understanding of the needs construction site and respective storm water management
- Inform recreational boaters of environmentally responsible boating habits

Sanitary District of Michigan City: 1100 E. Eighth Street, Michigan City, IN 46360-2567 • Phone: (219) 874-7799 • Fax: (219) 874-8053

- Educate the public regarding storm water, proper use of sanitary sewers, fats, oil, and grease (FOG) management

If called upon, the Sanitary District of Michigan City would contribute assistance with public outreach and education to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Sanitary District of Michigan City offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Michael P. Kuss
General Manager
Sanitary District of Michigan City



Alsip
Beecher
Blue Island
Burnham
Calumet City
Calumet Park
Chicago Heights
Country Club Hills
Crestwood
Crete
Dixmoor
Dolton
East Hazel Crest
Flossmoor
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Monee
Oak Forest
Olympia Fields
Orland Hills
Orland Park
Park Forest
Peotone
Phoenix
Posen
Richton Park
Riverdale
Robbins
Sauk Village
South Chicago Heights
South Holland
Steger
Thornton
Tinley Park
University Park
Worth

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

Representing nearly 750,000 residents and forty-five municipal governments, the SSMMA is an intergovernmental agency in the southern suburbs of Chicago that develops a common voice on municipal and regional priorities and quality of life concerns. We also advocate for sound public policy initiatives and solutions in support of local municipal, regional, and statewide goals. Securing the Calumet NHA designation is a priority of our organization and member municipalities, civic leaders, the environmental community, private sector partners, and stakeholders throughout a bi-state geography.

The SSMMA has been involved in the Calumet NHA effort and been participatory through our involvement on the Advisory Council. We have been active in our advocacy for this important initiative in support of a key heritage area that fosters greater cultural identity and biodiversity within our urban and suburban bi-state region. As such, the SSMMA could be counted upon to contribute technical assistance, planning, and Geographic

1904 W. 174th Street
East Hazel Crest, Illinois 60429

www.ssmma.org

708-206-1155
Fax 708-206-1133

Information Services (GIS) staff support, as well as media and community engagement support to ensure the success of the Calumet NHA.

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association is delighted to offer its full backing for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Kristi DeLaurentiis
Executive Director
South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

Town of Ogden Dunes
115 Hillcrest Road
Ogden Dunes, Indiana 46368
219-762-4125



June 5, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

RE: Calumet National Heritage Area

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Town of Ogden Dunes supports designating Southeastern Chicago and Northwest Indiana as the Calumet National Heritage Area. Since its founding in 1925 our lakefront community has had an integral relationship with the Calumet Region. Many of its original founders and residents had ties with either the emerging industries of this area or with the University of Chicago. Thus, they all agreed of the necessity of protecting the area's beauty and unique flora as the area industrialized. Despite the tension, and at times battles, between these two forces, they became partners in the Compromise of 1966 that resulted in the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the Port of Indiana, along with Bethlehem and Midwest Steel.

The Town of Ogden Dunes, despite its size, was and is a major player in the battles and compromises. It was in Ogden Dunes in June 1952 the Dorothy Buell and group of 22 women organized the Save the Dunes Council. Since that time residents of Ogden Dunes have continued to work for a meaningful and necessary partnership with the economic, as well as the cultural and ecological forces.

Today, Ogden Dunes is surrounded by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore with the Port of Indiana and major economic entities within a mile of the Town. For this reason, we support the initiatives of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Its case study provides a guide to insure a livable and productive future for all of us who share the Calumet Region. We continue to reach out to all our neighbors. We all must cooperate to insure our mutual future. The designation of this area as a National Heritage Area will only further the spirit of cooperation.

Sincerely,

Timothy Nelson
President, Town Council
Town of Ogden Dunes



VILLAGE OF DOLTON

Riley H. Rogers.....Mayor

Mary Kay Duggan.....Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Deborah Denton
Duane Muhammad

Tiffany Henyard
Robert E. Pierson, Jr.

Jason House
Valeria Stubbs

May 6, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Village of Dolton submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The Village of Dolton is in full support of any and all efforts and—if needed—would be glad to contribute space, and/or staff support to the make the Calumet National Heritage Area effort a success.

We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Mayor Riley H. Rogers
Village of Dolton

14122 CHICAGO RD • DOLTON, IL. 60419 • OFFICE: 708-849-4000 • FAX: 708-201-3307



Village of Homewood

2020 CHESTNUT ROAD
HOMewood, ILLINOIS 60430-1776
708-798-3000

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Village of Homewood Heritage Committee strongly supports the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet region is rich in history that our Heritage Committee has recognized and is vigorously promoting since 2002 with Drivin' the Dixie, one of the Midwest's most important trails, The Vincennes Trail-Hubbard's Trail now Dixie Highway, with an annual tour from Blue Island to Momence and working with towns down to Danville, IL. Registered participants learn about the history of the area and visit historic sites. We have had up to 200 registered cars each year, most of which are vintage or classic cars. Each town organizes the activities in their town. We have visited Illinois' oldest hardware store, two train station museums, house museums, a 50's roller rink, architecturally significant homes including a Lustron house, largest limestone quarry, country clubs, grain elevator, an Indy 500 car, and car shows. Homewood has the world's largest collection of Richard Haas murals, many which have Dixie Highway themes. We sponsored an Illinois State Historical Society historic marker for Dixie Highway, a Dixie mileage post and metal signs and street pole banners in towns from Blue Island to Danville. Chicago Heights is called the Crossroads of the Nation where the Dixie Highway and the Lincoln Highway cross. To celebrate the Dixie Highway Centennial in 2015 we gifted each town a 4 X 6 sign with the history of the road and that town's history along with photographs of that town. First we worked with historical societies and municipalities. Now Chambers of Commerce have recognized the draw of history for business and have joined our efforts. We have won several awards from the Illinois State Historical Society for our efforts and spawned a book. WTTW in Chicago included the Dixie in one of their videos. We take our history seriously. Please consider the impact this designation would have on preserving history. I have attended meetings and tours sponsored by the Calumet Heritage Area Partnership and am thrilled by the efforts. We are grateful the study area includes this significant history. Personally I am a member of 8 historical organizations, founding president of the Homewood Historical Society, past vice president and current director of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Best regards,

Elaine E. Egdorf

Chairman, Village of Homewood Heritage Committee





www.villageofparkforest.com

Mayor

John A. Ostenburg

June 27, 2017

Village Trustees

Mae Brandon
Tiffani Graham
Robert McCray
Georgia O'Neill
Theresa Settles
Jonathan Vanderbilt

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Village Clerk

Sheila McGann

Village Manager

Thomas Mick

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Village Hall

350 Victory Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 748-1112

On behalf of the Village of Park Forest, I offer this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*. Park Forest has a heightened awareness of the importance of developing this recognition given its location in the Calumet region.

**DownTown
Management Office**

226 Forest Blvd.
(708) 503-8153

Fire Department

156 Indianwood Blvd.
(708) 748-5605

Freedom Hall

410 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 747-0580

Health Department

350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-1118

Police Department

200 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 748-4700

**Recreation and
Parks Department**

350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-2005

Park Forest's support for the establishment of Calumet National Heritage Area is in line with much of the work for which Park Forest has long been known. Additionally, Park Forest support is rooted in its longstanding reputation as a regional leader on numerous levels, many of which mesh with the goals of the feasibility study. For example, Park Forest is one of the country's first totally planned communities. It was developed for service men and women returning from World War II. Then, the diversification of Park Forest's population took place as community leaders embraced integration in the 1950's and 1960's. The population mix of Park Forest today remains as diverse as any community in the entire state of Illinois.

Recreationally speaking, Park Forest has as much open space acreage per capita as any community in all of northeast Illinois. While the vast greenspaces encourage active lifestyles, they have also been used to enhance the ecosystem of the entire Calumet region. The Central Park Wetlands restoration and preservation project has changed the landscape of a large park complex in the center of Park Forest, has become an environmental classroom for thousands of elementary school students, and a catalyst for similar initiatives in other communities.

Park Forest's role in the sustainability arena has continued to grow in recent years. The Park Forest Sustainability Plan was adopted in 2012 and has been routinely recognized as one of the most comprehensive plans of

its kind. In the time since, the Village has diligently gone about implementing projects across the fourteen chapters laid out in the plan. Spin-off initiatives have included the establishment of a Bike and Pedestrian Plan, a nationally-recognized complete streets policy and numerous demonstration projects across the entire community.

The Village of Park Forest's understanding of sustainability for the larger community has made it a leader in the areas of social equity; fostering, championing and preserving the arts; and being financially stable. All of the above undoubtedly positions Park Forest as a real amenity in the Calumet region. Finally, the Village of Park Forest stands ready as an engaged regional partner to assist with any work that might be necessary in pursuing the designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The establishment of such a designation would only further all that Park Forest has accomplished.

Should there be any questions regarding this letter of support, please feel free to contact me directly via email at tmick@vopf.com, or on the phone at 708-748-1129.

Sincerely,



Thomas K. Mick
Village Manager



May 5, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Calumet Area Industrial Commission (CAIC) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

The mission of CAIC is to foster industrial retention and expansion efforts within the Commission's Chicagoland/Calumet/NW Indiana service area. The Commission's mission is accomplished through advocacy, industrial & workforce development, business networking and other services. A CAIC staff member serves as a member of the Calumet Heritage Partnership Board of Directors.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of CAIC and would further our work to make the Calumet Area an even better place to live, work, invest and recreate. The potential is there.....many positive things have happened, and are currently happening, throughout the Calumet Region. In many ways the area is already a "heritage area". The funding and brand recognition that official designation from Congress brings would significantly increase the area's visibility and supercharge efforts to make the area a national "bucket list" destination.

The Calumet Area Industrial Commission offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Ted Stalnos

Ted Stalnos
President
Calumet Area Industrial Commission

Calumet Area Industrial Commission, 1000 E. 111th Street, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60628



June 6, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

City Forest Products, LLC submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of City Forest Products, LLC (CFP) is to revitalize communities through the manufacturing and sale of sustainable products crafted from salvaged urban woods. We plan to expand our business operations in the Calumet region as it offers an excellent combination of industrial and transportation facilities, natural resources, and close proximity markets. We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the economic, social, and environmental goals of City Forest Products, LLC and would support our efforts to sustainably source urban woods, grow our small business, develop a unique brand, and restore human and natural communities.

If called upon, City Forest Products, LLC would contribute technical assistance, staff support, and funds through our Restoration Fund to make the Calumet NHA effort a success. City Forest Products, LLC offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Curtis Witek
President
City Forest Products, LLC
www.cityforestproducts.com

May 18, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496



Dear Dr. Bouman,

I write this letter on behalf of Indiana Dunes Tourism (IDT), supporting the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. Before my seven years at IDT, I worked at Save the Dunes and I am currently a member of the advisory board for both the Indiana Illinois Sea Grant and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Coastal Program. Therefore, I feel qualified to lend my support regarding an initiative such as this one that creates a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The formation of the Calumet National Heritage Area protects the globally significant natural resources, diverse communities and assets of this region. It is part of Indiana Dunes Tourism's mission to partner with local organizations and initiatives that increase the quality of life for visitors and residents in the Indiana Dunes and surrounding communities. A federal designation for our region assists in doing just that. It will help share the story of nationally significant area with a rich history and potentially rich future. Our support of the Calumet National Heritage Area lends to the work we already do and the meaningful partnerships we seek to develop.

I ask that you consider the immense value of this proposed designation. Please contact me if I may be of further assistance in supporting this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine Livingston".

Christine Livingston
Assistant Director, Indiana Dunes Tourism
christine@indianadunes.com



1215 N State Road 49 • Porter, IN 46304 • p:219-926-2255 • IndianaDunes.com

LAKESHORE PUBLIC MEDIA



LAKESHORE
PUBLIC RADIO

8625 Indiana Place
Merrillville, Indiana 46410
219-756-5656
LakeshorePublicMedia.org
LakeshorePublicRadio.org

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Lakeshore Public Media submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Lakeshore Public Media is to build a strong sense of community for the residents of Northwest Indiana by being the leading force in connecting people, ideas and information through multiple, ongoing media and outreach activities.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Lakeshore Public Media and would further our work to engage with our audiences throughout the region in opportunities to learn about the environment they live in, to increase awareness of the richness in opportunities for economic development and to collaborate with region partners to advance the interests of the NW Indiana and Chicagoland areas we serve.

If called upon, Lakeshore Public Media would contribute our services and space where available to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Lakeshore Public Media offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Director of Development and Corporate Support
Lakeshore Public Media



Mortar
Management
for Masonry

326 Melton Rd., Burns Harbor, IN 46304
P 800.664.6638 F 219.787.5088
www.mortarnet.com

18 April 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Mortar Net Solutions submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

Our company is deeply committed to the Calumet region as the home of many of our employees and of the company itself. Quoting from our Statement of Mission/Vision/Values, "We believe our success creates the responsibility and provides the resources to support the building professional and social communities in which we work and live." We act on this in our community through philanthropy and the participation of our employees, including executive management and ownership, in regional organizations.

I personally serve on the Board of Calumet Heritage Partners, so am active in the Calumet NHA effort by providing expertise and leadership at the Board level.

As a company we support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Mortar Net Solutions and would further our commitment to pursue economic development and quality of life issues in the Calumet region. We intend to support Calumet NHA by contributing board level guidance, staff support, and funds to help make the Calumet NHA effort a success. Mortar Net Solutions offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area.

We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gary R. Johnson', is written over a horizontal line.

Gary R. Johnson
President



601 W. 45th Avenue, Munster, IN 46321
2080 North Main Street, Crown Point, IN 46307
1111 Glendale Blvd., Valparaiso, IN 46383

May 13, 2017

Mark J. Bouman
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.
Chicago, IL 60605

Dear Mark,

I strongly support the feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet Region, stretching all the way through LaPorte County, and bordered on the south by the Kankakee River, as a common story to tell – in geography, in demographics and in history. As someone who has led the history news coverage for The Times Media Co. during Indiana's bicentennial year, I can assure you that the Calumet Region has a nationally significant history to tell.

From the birth of ecology to the research on early flight to the construction of World War I and World War II armament, to the construction of steel and rail communities, and more, the Calumet Region has helped shape the nation.

I eagerly joined the steering committee for the Calumet National Heritage Area proposal because I believe it will help bring all the significant historic and cultural resources of the Calumet Region together.

I offer my full support to the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and hope to contribute in whatever role I can.

Sincerely,

Doug Ross
Porter/LaPorte Editor
The Times of Northwest Indiana

nwtimes.com • 219-933-3200 (Munster) • 219-662-5300 (East Lake) • 219-462-5151 (Valparaiso) • 1-800-589-3221



May 14, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Antero Group submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*. We have worked for years to promote the uniqueness of the industrial and ecological intersection within the Calumet Region. As such, this project is of particular interest to our firm.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

We look forward to success in this endeavor and will provide support and technical assistance as the project evolves. We are prepared to participate on committees, offer cost estimating, planning, and other support as in-kind services. As you know, this is the core geography of our firm and we have dedicated years of volunteer service to the area. We are excited about your progress as you pursue the Calumet NHA.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to call or email, 773-403-5137, eneagu@anterogroup.com

Sincerely,



Eric V. Neagu, PE, LEED AP
Principal

The Antero Group, LLC
Albuquerque • Chicago • Denver
www.anterogroup.com

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Ford Hangar Foundation

Lansing Municipal Airport 3250 Bob Malkas Dr., Lansing, Illinois 60438

708.418.3976

May 4, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director
 Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
 Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Ford Hangar Foundation submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and ultimately, designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. As you know, the Calumet region is home to a compelling array of rare plants, animals and natural features as well as a world renowned built up environment that includes the steel mills and industry that laid down the transportation hub of the entire nation, the construction of the famous Chicago skyline, and gave rise to culturally diverse communities that fueled that remarkable transformation. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of the Ford Hangar Foundation is to preserve the Historic Ford Hangar, located at the Lansing Municipal Airport in Lansing, Illinois, for future generations and we believe that it represents a significant component of the Calumet National Heritage Area. The building which was designed by world famous architect Albert Kahn, was built in 1927 by automobile magnate Henry Ford.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Ford Hangar Foundation and would further our work to preserve this national treasure. To that end, we offer our full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and we look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Tony DeLaurentis
 President
 Ford Hangar Foundation

◆Dedicated to the Restoration and Preservation of the Historic Ford Hangar in Lansing, Illinois◆



GAYLORD & DOROTHY
DONNELLEY FOUNDATION

April 27, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation strongly supports the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The Calumet region harbors a unique assemblage of globally rare plants and animals, a massive steel industry that built the Chicago's famed skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Foundation and the many groups we have supported over the years to protect and preserve the Calumet region's famed natural lands. The NHA designation is critical to help all of us leverage the additional resources necessary to fully protect and restore these lands for us and for future generations.

We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

J. David Farren
Executive Director
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation

CHICAGO OFFICE
15 E. ELY STREET, SUITE 1000
CHICAGO, IL 60601
312.477.1400

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE
410 NORTH LANTANA WAY
CHARLESTON, SC 29405
803.211.2341

WWW.DONNELLEYFOUNDATION.ORG

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**LEGACY
FOUNDATION**

Lake County's Community Foundation

1000 East 80th Place, Suite 402N
Merrillville, IN 46410
219.736.1880
www.legacyfdn.org

May 18, 2017

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Carolyn Saxton, CFRE

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Legacy Foundation, Inc., Lake County Indiana's community foundation, is submitting this letter in unequivocal support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The landscape of the Calumet region is home to a unique eco-system, steel mills that have provided resources to build the infrastructure of our county, miles of National Lake Shore along Lake Michigan, and communities rich in cultural/ethnic diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region for those who live, work or play here.

The mission of Legacy Foundation is to create a culture of philanthropy that will transform Lake County, Indiana communities. Due to our physical connection to the Calumet region this NHA designation will spur economic growth in Lake County through tourism and accompanying business development.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Legacy Foundation, I support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with our goals and would enhance our work in transforming Lake County communities and, in turn, Northwest Indiana.

Legacy Foundation is a partner in making the Calumet NHA effort a success and we fully support this request.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Saxton
President & CEO



Confirmed to comply with the standards of the Systematic Foundation



Calumet National Heritage Area

Calumet College



of Saint Joseph

You Belong!
ccsj.edu

May 18, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the a case statement has been prepared in support of creating a bi-state Calumet Heritage Area in recognition of the diverse ecology and history of the Calumet Region. I am writing in support of this effort.

I serve as the President of Calumet College of St. Joseph, a small Catholic institution of higher learning. Sitting in my office, I can look out my windows and see downtown, Chicago, Lake Michigan, and the largest inland refinery in the United States. As the Midwest's most diverse institution of higher learning, we have served immigrant populations from many lands. Given our location and our mission, we have developed a deep appreciation for the unique natural and human history of the Calumet Region.

Prior to assuming my current position, I served as the Executive Director of the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council, a partnership involving the private sector, units of local government, and the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors of the region. It was organized and led by the presidents and chancellors of the six institutions of higher learning that call Northwest Indiana home. We focused on economic development, social equity, and environmental wellbeing. The creation of a bi-state Calumet Heritage Area would be very much reflective of this celebrated embrace of sustainability as a criteria for success in all that we do together as a community.

I am pleased to write a letter of support for the effort to create a Calumet Heritage Area and encourage the National Park Service to submit a positive recommendation to the U.S. Congress in this regard.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance. To this end, I can be reached at (219) 473-4338 or via e-mail at dlowery@ccsj.edu.

Sincerely,

Daniel Lowery, Ph.D.
President
Calumet College of Joseph



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST

CALUMET REGIONAL ARCHIVES

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:


The Calumet Regional Archives at Indiana University Northwest submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The mission of the Calumet Regional Archives is to collect, preserve, and make available historical records document the past of this amazing region. We have assisted with the Calumet Heritage Area project by providing historical materials for research and lending our expertise on the area's history, from the earliest days of the glaciers to the early Native Americans and explorers to the industrialization period and simultaneous environmental movements of the 20th and 21st centuries.

We support the work of the CHA because it dovetails well with the work of the Calumet Regional Archives to preserve this significant history of the Calumet Region. We look forward to continuing to assist the CHA effort with the information in our collections and the knowledge of our staff. We would also be glad to assist with the preservation and housing of additional collections, should the CHA come across such materials during the course of its work.

The Calumet Regional Archives offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,


Stephen McShane

Co-director and Archivist/Curator

Calumet Regional Archives, IU Northwest



202 South Halsted Street
Chicago Heights, IL 60411-8226
(708) 709-3500 • Fax (708) 755-2587
prairiestate.edu

May 4, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Prairie State College (PSC) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

PSC's sustainability mission is to improve and protect the environment while promoting fiscal and social responsibility. PSC seeks to educate students about the pressures facing the local and global environment and to increase understanding of the green economy.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of PSC and would further our work to restore the PSC nature preserve, which is a 30-acre parcel of dedicated green space extending west from Halsted Street to Coolidge Street and north of Joe Orr Road. Our restoration goals align with a number of overarching categories outlined in the feasibility study. Specifically, the college identifies with a variety of goals and priorities listed within the following categories: environment and stewardship; cultural heritage/historic preservation; recreation; economy; and education.

If called upon, PSC would offer support as necessary to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

PSC offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Terri L. Winfree, Ph.D.
President
Prairie State College

printed on recycled paper

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

NORTHWEST

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

May 18, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director
 Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
 Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

On behalf of Purdue University Northwest I wish to submit this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

Faculty and administrators from PNW have participated in conferences and meetings devoted to the development of the Calumet proposal. The College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences was proud to host meetings of the planning committee on our Hammond campus in 2014-16. The proposed Calumet NHA aligns very closely with the goals of Purdue Northwest, a comprehensive regional university of more than 15,000 students, with two campuses located in Hammond, near Chicago, and Westville, near the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Purdue Northwest has been intimately involved in shaping the economy and environment of Northwest Indiana. Every academic college of PNW has collaborated on numerous projects with regional businesses, manufacturers, health providers, environmental groups, and non-profits through our research centers and institutes. These include the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation, the Commercialization and Manufacturing Excellence Center, the Northwest Indiana Area Health Education Center, the Institute for Social and Policy Research, the Water Institute at Purdue Northwest, and the Center for Business and Economic Development Solutions. As I hope this list suggests, our educational and research mission embraces the rich cultural, manufacturing, and ecological diversity of our region.

Hammond Campus

2200 169th Street ■ Hammond, IN 46323
 (219) 989-2204 ■ pnw.edu

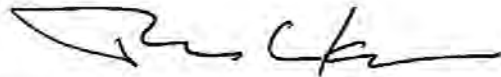
Westville Campus

1401 S. U.S. Hwy. 421 ■ Westville, IN 46391
 (219) 785-5433 ■ pnw.edu

Because the aims of the Heritage Area are so intertwined with our mission, Purdue Northwest will continue to support the Calumet NHA effort by spotlighting the NHA as an opportunity for engagement by our talented faculty and students, hosting NHA events, and leveraging our educational and research resources to advance Heritage goals.

Purdue University Northwest offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Kcon
Chancellor
Purdue University Northwest

Hammond Campus
2200 169th Street
Hammond, IN 46323
(219) 989-2204

Westville Campus
1401 S. U.S. Hwy. 421
Westville, IN 46391
(219) 785-5433

Letter of Support from
Purdue University Northwest
Calumet National Heritage Area initiative



SOUTH METROPOLITAN Higher Education Consortium

202 South Halsted Street
ATOC Building – 144
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
Phone: 708/709-2942
www.SouthMetroEd.org

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

DeVry University
Governors State University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Joliet Junior College
Kankakee Community College
Lewis University
Moraine Valley Community College
Prairie State College
Saint Xavier University
South Suburban College
University of St. Francis

Chair, Presidents' Council
Arvid Johnson, Ph.D.
University of St. Francis

Chair, Council of Chief Academic Officers
Lynette Stokes, Ed.D.
South Suburban College

Executive Director
Genevieve Boesen

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605

Dear Dr. Bouman:

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the members of the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium, to provide a strong letter supporting the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium (SMHEC) is a 25 year old partnership of eleven colleges and universities whose mission is to foster new and enhanced educational services and programs to the citizens of our region – the Calumet region.

For the last eight years our organization has been focused on initiatives to enhance the sustainability and resilience of this region. Many of those initiatives include environmental education, volunteer ecological stewardship and programming in green infrastructure, precisely the same types of programming integral to the Calumet Heritage Partnership. The staff we have met through involvement with the Partnership have provided our staff, faculty and students with a broader understanding of the region they live in. The Southeast Environmental Task Force has provided a tour of the ecological challenges in their neighborhood, the SMHEC Council of Presidents met with the President of the Field Museum to share perspectives on their region and we regularly meet with members of the National Park Service who connects us with opportunities to network with a broader range of partners.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with our goals of working with our communities to become more sustainable and resilient. The colleges of SMHEC will be happy to host events at our campuses and contribute staff time to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

We enthusiastically support this proposal.

Sincerely,


Genevieve Boesen

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
PROGRAM ON THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
5828 S. UNIVERSITY AVENUE
CHICAGO • ILLINOIS 60637

May 18, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Program on the Global Environment (PGE) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of PGE and would further one of our flagship programs, The Calumet Quarter (<http://calumetquarter.uchicago.edu/>). The Calumet Quarter is an experiential learning program that introduces University of Chicago undergraduate students to the complex intersections of ecology, history, economics, and policy of the Calumet Region. Already recognizing the importance of the Calumet Region, this program will greatly benefit from the resources and collaborative and research opportunities of the Calumet NHA.

If called upon, PGE would contribute faculty, staff and student advisory services to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Program on the Global Environment offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sabina Shaikh, Dr. Madeleine McLeester, and Dr. Alison Anastasio
Director, Program Assistant and Adjunct Lecturer, and Adjunct Lecturer





Valparaiso University

Office of the President

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Valparaiso University submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Valparaiso University and would further our work to bring together smaller groups of people who share common interests in our region's environment, arts, recreation, industry, and diverse cultures and hopefully to collaborate in celebrating our region's uniqueness.

If called upon, Valparaiso University would contribute the intellectual resources of our faculty in the environmental sciences as well as the relevant humanities disciplines to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success. A heritage area would greatly benefit the university and our students and would also provide a conduit through which we could more easily serve our regional community.

Valparaiso University offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Mark A. Heckler.

Mark A. Heckler, Ph.D.
President

Kretzmann Hall • 1700 Chapel Drive • Valparaiso, Indiana 46383-4520
phone: 219.464.5115 • fax: 219.464.6776 • mark.heckler@valpo.edu



Kiwanis Club of Chicago Heights

P. O. Box 844
Chicago Heights, Illinois 60412

August Anzelmo
Bob Carstensen
Angelo Ciabrone
Ernest Davis Jr.
Chuck Derringer
Ron Lucarini
Stanford McDonald
George Michael
Joseph Parzygnot
Joseph Perozzi
Robert Rogers
Ron Rogers
TJ Somer
Richard Stelter

April 26, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2495

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Kiwanis Club of Chicago Heights submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animal, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The Feasibility Study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Chicago Heights Kiwanis is—service. A strong partnership of communities, public bodies and businesses forged by the creation of the Calumet NHA will improve and enhance the service efforts of the Chicago Heights Kiwanis club.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Kiwanis and enlists the participation of other like-minded organizations, agencies and associations and would further our work to establish projects that benefit the community.



May 16, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

The League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region (LWVLMR) members include several local chapters of the League of Women Voters which are located within the Calumet Region study area. Our mission is to educate voters and others about Lake Michigan issues and advocate for selected policy initiatives while remaining nonpartisan. We enthusiastically support the designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area, and are pleased to provide this letter in support of the proposed feasibility study.

Our primary concern is with our natural resources, and we appreciate the uniqueness, importance, and continuity of the bi-state ecosystem. Its health is essential to the regional economy. It was critical to the region's historical settlement and development, and will continue to influence the fate of the region.

LWVLMR supports the use of area-wide coordinated management plans and techniques in solving of Great Lakes ecosystem problems. Working across political boundaries often makes sense. Federal designation as a National Heritage Area would ease coordination among governmental entities in addressing regional problems. It would also strengthen the regional identity, thereby making future planning efforts more potent.

LWVLMR board members from Illinois and Indiana attended Calumet Heritage Partnership meetings. We examined reports and maps, discussed the potential National Heritage Area with others from the region, and submitted written comments. We applaud the Partnership for providing the chance for citizens such as ourselves to take part in the process.

We have shared information about a potential National Heritage Area with our members and welcome continued opportunities to do so. If needed, we stand ready to assist in disseminating information within communities served by the League and to help facilitate public engagement over study area issues. We look forward to discussing how we may be helpful in this regard.

Finally, we support designation of a National Heritage Area and the proposed feasibility study because we know the story of the Calumet Region is important and worth sharing with residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

Krista M. Grimm
President

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® LAKE MICHIGAN REGION
332 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 634, Chicago IL 60604
lwvlmr.org | lwvlakemichigan@gmail.com | f: @LWVLakeMichigan | t: @LakeLwv

League of Women Voters of LaPorte County
P.O. Box 9234, Michigan City, IN 46361-9234



May 10, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

The League of Women Voters La Porte County, Indiana (LWVLC), submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

LWVLC is best known for working on governmental issues such as voting, but we also select a program each year based on local needs and LWVUS/LWVIN positions on public issues. We often work on issues regarding Lake Michigan, business and industry, civic affairs, and certainly voting issues. Our membership consists of women and men who are well informed, movers and shakers, educators, and above all, involved in our local communities. As such, we have a wealth of information to share with CNHA regarding the history of La Porte County, and all aspects of life here! We were happy to welcome Mario Longoni to one of our "Lunch with The League" meetings this year, and our members were interested and impressed with the possibilities and benefits of CNHA. Its representatives have also appeared at our local Environmental Conference and the LWV Lake Michigan Region (LWVLMR) Annual Meeting last October.

We support the proposed CNHA because it aligns with the goals of LWVLC and would further our work in building a stronger community. If called upon, LWVLC could possibly host community educational events to help make the CNHA effort a success. LWVLC offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Patricia Boy
President
League of Women Voters La Porte County



May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

We send this letter in support of creating a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA). The recently completed feasibility study makes a strong case that the landscape of the Calumet region and its heritage and history are part of a nationally significant region. Some of the Calumet's stories are captured in the region's two national parks – Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Pullman National Monument. A national heritage area designation will help broaden the reach to include a more comprehensive look at conservation and history for visitors.

For nearly a century, NPCA has been a powerful independent voice working to strengthen and protect America's favorite places: our national parks and the landscapes in which they thrive. We support the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area because it aligns with our work to preserve and protect the Calumet's two national parks and it supports conservation and history in the region. NPCA has served on the Calumet NHA advisory group in the past and look forward to staying active in a heritage area once it is designated. NPCA also works on a national level in support of heritage area program legislation to ensure that all 49 NHAs are well supported.

NPCA offers its support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and we are ready to assist in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Lynn McClure
Midwest Regional Director

Colin Deverell
Midwest Program Manager

Midwest Regional Office

8 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 2900 | Chicago, IL 60603 | P 312.263.0111 | F 312.263.0140 | npca.org



The Nature Conservancy
Worldwide Office
 4245 North Fairfax Drive
 Suite 100
 Arlington, VA 22203

tel [703] 841-5300
 e-mail: EMAIL@tnic.org
 nature.org

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director
 Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Nature Conservancy submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Our staff has been involved in the development of the Calumet National Heritage Area effort, including serving on the NHA Advisory Committee.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of The Nature Conservancy and would further our work in both Indiana and Illinois to coordinate and land management and ecological restoration in key natural lands; to restore, manage and promote healthy watershed systems; and to develop a stewardship model for the bi-state Calumet region including measures of success

If called upon, The Nature Conservancy would contribute staff time through our continuing work in the Calumet to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Nature Conservancy offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Paul Labus
 Northwest Indiana Region Director,
 Indiana Chapter

John Legge
 Chicago Conservation Director,
 Illinois Chapter



An Affiliate of the National Urban League

URBAN LEAGUE OF NORTHWEST INDIANA, INC.

April 24, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Urban League of Northwest Indiana submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The Urban League of Northwest Indiana offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Dr. Vanessa Allen
President and CEO

3101 Broadway
Gary, Indiana 46409

P (219)887-9621
F (219)884-4519

Dr. Vanessa Allen
President/CEO

Website

<http://ulofnwi.org>

Email

info@urbanleagueofnwi.org

Empowering Communities
Changing Lives

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Vice-Chair, Internal Affairs
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Ivy Tech Community College

Chancellor William Lowe
Indiana University Northwest

Byron Martin
Valparaiso University

LaRue Martin, Jr.
United Parcel Service

Fr. Thomas Mischke
Catholic Archdiocese of Gary, IN

Randy Paltrower
NWI Building & Construction Trades

Art Russell
Centier Bank

Michael Suggs
NIPSCO

Debra Wasson
Kuhlman, Aetgen & Svan, P.C.

Dr. Sheri Miller-Williams
Lighthouse Academics

Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson
City of Gary, IN

Patricia Ann Winkfield
Majestic Star Casino



Lake Area United Way



United Way of Porter County



Gibson Woods Chapter #38
6201 Parrish Avenue
Hammond, IN 46323

May 3, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Gibson Woods Wild Ones submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

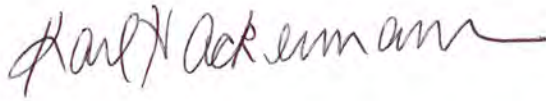
The mission of The Gibson Woods Chapter of Wild Ones is to promote the use of native plants in home landscapes. We are directly involved in the Calumet region to promote biodiversity and a healthy environment through education and example for our mission. We can help by attending meetings, serve as an advisory capacity, and provide expertise in the use of native plants in the landscape.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Gibson Woods Chapter of Wild Ones, and would further our work to educate people on the value of native plants to create biodiversity.

If called upon, the Gibson Woods Chapter of Wild Ones would contribute services and staff support to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Gibson Woods Chapter of Wild Ones offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karl H. Ackermann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karl H. Ackermann
President
Gibson Woods Chapter Wild Ones



May 22, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Alliance for the Great Lakes (Alliance) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Alliance for the Great Lakes is to protect the Great Lakes for today and tomorrow. Our vision is the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes for people and wildlife, forever. In furtherance of this vision, we involve tens of thousands of people each year in advocacy, volunteering, education, and planning to ensure the lakes are healthy and safe for all. Several of our staff have been involved in the Calumet NHA effort; for example, we presented and then helped organize the 2013 and 2015 Calumet Summits respectively.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with several of our goals for the Calumet region and would further our work to ensure local communities benefit from their proximity to Lake Michigan, Lake Calumet and the Calumet River. Our community partners in South Chicago, East Side, South Deering, Hegewisch, Gary and Michigan City could benefit from the work outlined in the Key Regional Goals and Priorities section of the Feasibility Study. If called upon, the Alliance would contribute staff support focused on connecting the priorities of our local community partners with NRA's regional planning efforts.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss please do not hesitate to reach out to me, at 312-939-0838 or jbrammeier@greatlakes.org.

Sincerely,

Joel Brammeier
President & CEO

Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative

A not-for-profit organization and land trust

Working across state boundaries to enhance the Wolf Lake Watershed



May 8, 2017

*Board
of Directors*

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Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Ex officio

Michael Boos
executive director
Susan Sadlowski Garza
City of Chicago
Rebecca Moss
Cook County FPD
Keith Carey
Hammond Port Authority
Lake County, IN

The Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI) supports the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA).

Several members of our board are founding members of the Calumet Heritage Partnership (CHP) and remain committed to the creation of the Calumet (NHA). This is reflected in AWLI's co-sponsorship of the Calumet Revisited Forum, which just completed its third year of discussions on the region's rich human history and environmental treasures.

Since 1999, AWLI has sought to improve and enhance the bi-state Wolf Lake Watershed, which lies near the center of the proposed heritage boundaries. During past decades, AWLI and CHP have supported each other's efforts in the Calumet Region. AWLI expects this relationship to continue more robustly once the NHA designation is achieved.

Individuals

LaToya Gilbert
Lara Gonzalez
Dr. James P. Sullivan
Linda Trinkle

Sincerely,

Honorary Board

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David Dabertin
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Jack Walter
President

Michael L. Boos
Executive Director

Enclosure

CCSJ Rm 614, 2400 New York Ave., Whiting, IN 46394-2146
219 933-7149 ♦ 312 220-0120 ♦ FAX: 219 473-4259

michael@wolflakeinitiative.org

<http://www.wolflakeinitiative.org>



BLUE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Albee House, 13018 Maple Avenue, Blue Island, IL 60406

(708) 371-8546 | events@blueislandhistoricalsociety.com

May 8, 2017

Letter of Support

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

The Blue Island Historical Society submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

The Blue Island Historical Society is a dedicated supporter of the Calumet Heritage Partnership (CHP) and the vision for a Calumet NHA. Board Members have spoken and presented to neighboring historical societies, served on the CHP board, and attend conferences and events.

For these reasons, the Blue Island Historical Society supports the Calumet NHA, which would be a strength to our community, bolstering our goals to recognize and preserve heritage assets.

The Blue Island Historical Society will continue to support the Calumet NHA through service on the CHP board, convening local connections and opening Historical Society resources for events and activities. We offer our full support for the Calumet National Heritage Area and look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Jason Berry
Board President



May 7, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Cedar Lake Historical Association (CLHA) enthusiastically submits this letter in support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA).

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet NHA and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of CLHA is to bring together those interested in the history of Cedar Lake and those seeking to understand our traditions and heritage. We execute our mission through the operation of a history museum where we preserve Cedar Lake's heritage as part of the Calumet Region. Our museum tours educate children and adults in support of the Calumet NHA goals. Through a grant from Indiana Humanities in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities, we are formalizing and expanding our school tour resources by producing educational packets and have to invited educators from across the Calumet NHA to our museum.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of CLHA and would further our work to become a vital and energetic gathering place where residents and tourists of all generations create memories through participation in our unique programs and special events. If called upon, CLHA would contribute services, space, and staff to our best ability to make the Calumet NHA effort a success. We offer our full support for the proposed Calumet NHA. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Julie Zasada
Executive Director

P.O. Box 421, Cedar Lake, IN 46303
www.cedarlakehistory.org | 219-390-9423 | clhamuseum@yahoo.com



June 14, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

Dunes Learning Center submits this letter in strong support of the designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. These heritage resources make a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of Dunes Learning Center is to inspire lasting curiosity and stewardship with nature.

Dunes Learning Center offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Geof R. Benson
Executive Director

(Beverly Shores Town Council member, NIRPC Commissioner and Vice Chair 2017, Calumet Stewardship Initiative chair, Lake Michigan Marina and Shoreline Development Commissioner, National Association of Regional Councils President Elect 2017)

700 HOWE RD, PORTER, IN 46304 WWW.DUNESLEARNINGCENTER.ORG P: 219.395.9555 F: 219.395.8160



1000 WEST FULTON MARKET, 4TH FLOOR, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60607

WWW.BIGMARSH.ORG

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MISSION

Friends of Big Marsh, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a coalition of organizations, companies, and people who support the development of Park No. 564 as an eco-recreation area that supports the physical, environmental, and economic health of the Calumet region.

CONTACT

Randy Neufeld
 SRAM, Inc.
 (312) 664-8800
 rneufeld@sram.com

5/7/17

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Friends of Big Marsh submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

Friends of Big Marsh's mission speaks directly to this process: Friends of Big Marsh is a coalition of organizations, companies, and people who support the development of Park No. 564 as an eco-recreation area that improves the physical, environmental, and economic health and wellbeing of the Calumet region.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of Friends of Big Marsh and would further our work to engaging local communities so that park benefits flow to local residents, businesses and initiatives as we help develop a national eco-recreation destination. If called upon, Friends of Big Marsh would contribute staff support and volunteer energies to make the Calumet NHA effort a success. Friends of Big Marsh offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Jay Readey
 Development Advisor
 Friends of Big Marsh

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496



542 S. Dearborn St.
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60605
312.356.9990
fotfp.org

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Friends of the Forest Preserves submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

Friends of the Forests Preserves' mission is: We are the voice of a diverse community organizing and inspiring people to protect, restore, and expand the forest preserves in Cook County. Our President & CEO serves on the board of the Calumet Heritage Partnership, which as you know is championing this effort, and he has served in a leadership role with the Calumet Stewardship Initiative for some 10 years. We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of FOTFP and would further our work to protect and preserve natural areas for the benefit of people and nature.

If called upon, FOTFP would contribute any assistance that made sense, possibly including office space, fiscal agency services, and staff time to serve on committees or write grants, to the make the Calumet NHA effort a success. FOTFP offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Cox
President & CEO

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THE GARY HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 64-603 – GARY, IN 46401

FOUNDED IN 1976 BY GARY HISTORIAN, DHARATHULA H. "DOLLY" MILLENDER

GHCS@EMAIL.COM – [HTTP://GHCSINC.TRIPOD.COM](http://GHCSINC.TRIPOD.COM)

DEDICATED TO SAVING THE FIRST GARY BUILDING, OF THE GARY LAND COMPANY



May 8, 2017

To: The Calumet National Heritage Area

The Gary Historical & Cultural Society, Inc. submits this letter in support of a proposed feasibility study and future designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area in Gary / Northwest Indiana.

The Calumet region, here in Gary and throughout Northwest Indiana, is home to globally rare plants and animals, and steel mills that helped to build the famous Chicago skyline. And, so importantly, our history can notify the world of how communities, like Gary, Indiana, rich in cultural diversity, have had to work together for generations to build a better future for diverse populations. Together, this heritage (cultural and historic) makes up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country.

The feasibility study paints a compelling landscape for the need of a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could and must play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

In fact, the mission of The Gary Historical & Cultural Society, Inc., shows our connection from this excerpt: *The **Mission** of the GHCS CENTER is to develop and expand the community's awareness, understanding and appreciation of the significant past, present and future roles that Gary, Indiana and its citizens have played in the social, cultural and economic development of America and of Indiana.*

Thus, we support the proposed Calumet NHA, because it aligns with many of our goals and would further our work to, for example, restore Gary's 1st building (pictured above) .. The Gary Land Company that we have maintained for many years as a visitor's and tourist center. This historic and iconic building was built by U.S Steel Corporation in 1906, and is still standing although in need of restoration.

The Gary Historical & Cultural Society, Inc. is in full support of the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to our continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Naomi Millender, CEO/Director of The Gary (IN) Historical & Cultural Society, Inc.
(219) 902-0524

GHCS - P. O. Box 64-603 – Gary, IN 46401
219-902-0524 or 882-6873 – ghcs@email.com

Historical Society of Ogden Dunes
115 Hillcrest Road
Ogden Dunes, Indiana 46368

May 9, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director
 Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
 Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Historical Society of Ogden Dunes strongly supports the proposed feasibility study and the designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. Our organization and community lives in the midst of the proposed area. Ogden Dunes is built within the sand dunes, swales, and oak savannahs; all of which reflect the rich ecological diversity that justified the creation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966.

Today, our community abuts the National Lakeshore on the east, west and south with Lake Michigan our northern boundary. Yet, we are one quarter of a mile west of U.S. Steel's Midwest plant; three miles west of Bethlehem Steel; and two miles east of Gary.

We have supported the work of the National Heritage Partnership directly by attending workshops and focus groups and indirectly through exhibits in the Hour Glass Museum in Ogden Dunes and programs that document the battles and the partnerships between industry, urbanization, and environmental protection.

The Calumet Region has a unique place in our national history. It is home to rare plants and animals; it is an ecological wonder. And all through the 20th century, it was home to the greatest concentration of steel mills found no where else in the world. This, in turn, gave rise to communities that continue to be rich in cultural diversity. This has been documented by the recent feasibility study that makes a case for the Calumet National Heritage Area and strengthened by the recent federal action creating the Pullman National Monument and the celebrations associated with the 50th Anniversary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

We support the many initiatives of the partners which make up the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Its case study provides a guide to insure a livable and productive environment that has given this area the natural beauty of a pre-industrial age, the industrialization of the 20th century, and the rich cultural diversity of the 21st century. The mission of the Historical Society of Ogden Dunes supports this. Our mission is sharing the past, preserving the present, and preparing for the future.

Through our programs, publications, and exhibits, we will complement the work of the Partnership. For example, for the past year, we mounted an exhibit in collaboration with the National Park Service and the Porter County Museum that documents the “battle for the dunes”. This battle ended in 1966 with the great compromise that created both the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the Port of Indiana, along with five miles of steel mills.

Though a small organization, our museum space can be used for meetings and programs, as well as exhibits that support the goals outlined in the feasibility study.

The Historical Society of Ogden Dunes offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to cooperating on this critical initiative.

Richard J. Meister
President, Historical Society of Ogden Dunes

Homewood Historical Society

Homewood, Illinois 60430

May 5, 2017

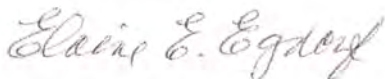
Mark J. Bourman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bourman:

The Homewood Historical Society Board of Directors voted to support the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet region is rich in cultural diversity and history which is significant in telling the American story. We are anxious to work together with the Calumet National Heritage Area to share this story. The federal designation could play an important role in encouraging others to join in efforts to preserve and promote this important area.

Most sincerely,



Elaine E. Egdorf
Director



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30 N. Michigan Ave.
Suite 2020
Chicago, IL 60602
www.Landmarks.org

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Landmarks Illinois supports the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*. As you may recall, Landmarks Illinois included the steel manufacturing structures along the Calumet River (11236 S. Torrence Ave, 10700-10800 S. Burley, Chicago) on our *Ten Most Endangered Historic Places* list in 2004.

These structures were threatened by bankruptcy proceedings and property divestment. The structures were sold to scrap dealers and only some remnants were ultimately salvaged and are now in storage. The loss of these important resources was a wakeup call for the community and public officials to embrace an opportunity to tell the story of the Calumet region as the manufacturing hub and economic foundation of Chicago in the early-20th century. Most of the industries' early structures no longer exist and few survive. To tell the story of modern labor history and embrace the preservation of the places that remain is critically important.

The Calumet region is a fascinating mix of natural landscape and wildlife mixed with industrial history. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region unique to the nation. The feasibility study makes a solid case for how a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) can strengthen the region by drawing visitors interested in recreation, the environment and industrial heritage. With its close proximity to the Pullman National Monument, a Calumet NHA will bring even more synergy to the far South Side of Chicago.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA and look forward to next steps.

Sincerely,

Director of Advocacy



Lansing Historical Society

Post Office Box 1776
Lansing, Illinois 60438-0633
(708) 474-2447, ext. 176

May 4, 2017
Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Lansing, Illinois, Historical Society submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The Calumet National Heritage Area will be important to both visitors and local residents in making everyone aware of this area's ecological treasures, its historical significance to America's age of industrialization and its diverse ethnic communities and their arts.

The mission of the Lansing Historical Society and Museum is to collect and preserve the Lansing area's history for the future and to provide a forum for area people who are interested in history. We have sent representatives to the Calumet Heritage partnership meetings and hosted Calumet Partnership speakers at our local meeting to educate the public.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Lansing Historical Society and would further our work to make visitors aware of our area's history and unite our community with pride in our area's integral role in building America. In particular the Calumet NHA would bring more attention to our Ford Hangar site which is significant to the Calumet area's history of industry and transportation.

If called upon, the Lansing Historical Society would be glad to contribute services, space and staff support to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The Lansing Historical Society offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this initiative.

Sincerely,

Barbara Dust
Curator
Lansing Historical Society and Museum



NORTHWEST INDIANA STEEL HERITAGE PROJECT

835 Woodlawn Ave.
Chesterton, IN 46304
www.nishp.org
steelheritage@gmail.com

05/02/2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Project, Inc., (NISHP), submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of NISHP is to engage the community in steel's impact on society and celebrate its place in our lives by providing an interactive and educational experience.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of NISHP and would further our work to identify and showcase the industrial heritage of the Calumet Region through education, exhibition and other activities.

If called upon, NISHP would contribute our subject matter expertise to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The NISHP offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyer

President

Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Project, Inc.



April 25, 2017

Suite 1650
25 East Washington Street
Chicago, IL 60602-1708

Tel: 312-863-6250
Fax: 312-863-6251

www.openlands.org

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Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.

Chicago Region Program Director, Keller Science Action Center, Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Re: Openlands Supports the Calumet National Heritage Area Designation

Dear Dr. Bouman:

Openlands submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. Openlands is among the nation's original metropolitan conservation organizations, and we are organized around the goal of connecting people in greater Chicago to nature where they live. Openlands was instrumental in creating the National Heritage Area (NHA) program through the designation of the country's first NHA – the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor – in 1984. We believe that the Calumet deserves similar recognition now.

The Calumet region possesses all the features that make NHA's such special places. Globally rare dune-and-swale and oak savanna habitats weave through industrial areas and residential neighborhoods. A growing network of trails, visitor centers, and other recreational facilities is bookended by nationally-significant sites at Pullman National Monument and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Yet, the region's transportation, steel, and other manufacturing industries remain critical magnets of economic development and employment opportunity. The feasibility study captures the unlikely harmony that exists between these features and makes a strong case that NHA designation will play a vital role in creating a stronger, more sustainable future in the Calumet region.

Openlands looks forward to continuing our commitment to this crucial initiative. I have served on the Steering Committee of the Millennium Reserve. My staff is involved with numerous projects in the region as well, which include protecting and restoring wildlife habitat, establishing greenways and recreational trails, and engaging local schoolchildren with field trips to the region's many natural areas. Designating a Calumet NHA will improve our ability to conduct this work, and in so doing, build capacity among other community groups and local partners.

To that end, I would like to enthusiastically re-emphasize our support for the feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,



Gerald W. Adelman,
President & CEO



Dedicated to Preservation and Protection of the Indiana Dunes Since 1952

May 15, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

On behalf of Save the Dunes, I submit this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of our beautiful region as the *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

Save the Dunes has proudly served the Calumet region for the last 65 years, working tirelessly to address challenges that threaten the integrity of this remarkable region, including invasive species, potential climate change impacts, fragmentation, and lack of sufficient funds to address these threats effectively. We firmly believe that the designation of the Calumet National Heritage Area could further protection efforts of this unique region. For that reason, we are strongly supportive of the proposed feasibility study and federal designation.

If called upon, Save the Dunes would be willing to contribute meeting space and staff support to make the Calumet National Heritage Area effort a success. We offer our full support and wish you the utmost success in this critical endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natalie", followed by a large, stylized circular flourish.

Natalie Johnson
Executive Director
Save the Dunes

www.savedunes.org
444 Barker Road • Michigan City, IN 46360 • p 219.879.3564 f 219.872.4875

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109 West 700 North
Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-242-8558
www.heinzetrust.org

May 18, 2017

Mr. Mark Bouman
Chicago Region Program Director
The Field Museum

RE: Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative

Dear Mr. Bouman,

I am writing on behalf of the Shirley Heinze Land Trust to indicate our support for the Calumet Region becoming a National Heritage Area. There is no doubt this region is worthy of this designation considering its diverse cultural, industrial, and natural heritage. Shirley Heinze Land Trust commits to working with the Calumet Heritage Partnership every step of the way to help make the Calumet National Heritage Area become a reality for this bi-state region.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust supports this endeavor because it sees the value of connecting people to places. This designation will:

- Increase the value and appreciation people have for some of the most fascinating and ecologically significant natural places in the Country;
- Connect a National Monument and National Lakeshore in a region that has social justice and environmental challenges;
- Bring communities together by creating a common and shared vision;
- Raise the appreciation and understanding of what this region has to offer; and
- Tell a profound story of how industry, nature, cultural heritage, and people are interconnected and can coalesce in meaningful way for the betterment of current and future generations.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust is a regional land trust involved in acquiring, restoring, and stewarding high quality natural areas in Northwest Indiana. We manage 2,350 acres of nature preserves, largely within the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area including approximately 200 acres adjacent to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

In closing, Shirley Heinze Land Trust strongly endorses the Calumet National Heritage Area Initiative. If you have further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 219.242.8558 or kkrouse@heinzetrust.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristopher Krouse".

Kristopher Krouse
Executive Director

Kevin P. Murphy
9913 S. Avenue H
Chicago, Illinois 60617-5549

May 9, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

As webmaster of the *Spotlighting Southeast Chicago and Northwest Indiana* website, the *Calumet Region Sites* website, and the Kevin Murphy Youtube video website, I strongly support the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

Our three sites were created to highlight the richness of the Calumet Region, whose environmentally rich landscape is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that strongly contributed to the nation's transition from agricultural nation to international industrial powerhouse, and communities rich in cultural diversity and artistic talent. These heritage resources define a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the nation. The feasibility study is a clearly presented documentation of the Calumet National Heritage Area concept's evolution into a well-conceived, thoughtfully-designed, and exciting, project, making a strong case regarding the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role that this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region, with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

The website, *Spotlighting Southeast Chicago and Northwest Indiana*, was conceived as a facilitating device to highlight the many and varied resources, human, natural, social, technological, and the like, to residents, most of whom were unaware that they lived and worked in an amazingly resilient, artistically rich, post-industrial community in the process of redefining itself for a challenging future. Thus, we decided to work at highlighting those promising aspects, using regional activity, and its human engines, as the basis for that more balanced perspective, and the website as the medium for broadcasting that information.

Joann and I are both graduate-degreed sociologists and retired professional educators who became involved in regional activity decades ago, participating in organizations like Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative, Calumet Ecological Park Association, Calumet Heritage Partnership, Southeast Environmental Task Force, Southeast Chicago Historical Society (Kevin is a past president of that organization), and the like.

In 2007, we were asked by the Executive Director of AWLI, staff members of The Field Museum's Calumet Environmental Education Program (CEEP), and a representative of the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, to act as Chairperson (Joann), and Secretary/Webmaster (Kevin) of the Calumet Stewardship Initiative, a regional environmental umbrella group that ultimately grew to 44 member organizations during our January, 2007 - October, 2011, tenure.

During the ongoing Calumet NHA work, we have been involved in participating in, and visually documenting, meetings (photo and/or video): https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=hSg8DePpTLU, https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=RzC0RBgaT3M, https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=DENCmdocb48, https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=6iz7hMKGUPU, https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=6RcRuaPD70c, https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=mu1EjGWC57M

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the purposes and processes of our three websites and is, in effect, the embodiment of their purposes, the linking of the important components of our region into a vibrant whole. In our immediate future, we envision the expansion of the tour processes that we have pioneered during the past year to include rich possibilities across the region. We will continue to work at defining those projects in collaboration with our fellow Calumet NHA proponents. Meanwhile, our websites are available to expand the coverage of Calumet NHA projects, as is our video team. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative, and giving our complete support to the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,



Kevin P. Murphy

Author: Degrees of Murder: <http://www.booklocker.com/books/292.html>

Out of Order: <http://www.booklocker.com/books/4181.html>

Something Bright and Alien: <http://www.booklocker.com/books/85.html>

Unfriendly Fire: <http://www.booklocker.com/books/2989.html>

Webmaster: <http://www.spotlightingsoutheastchicago.com/index.html>

<http://calregionsites.com>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/calumetstewardship/featured>



May 5, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

South Shore Arts, the regional arts partner of the Indiana Arts Commission for Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties, offers enthusiastic support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. We recognize that the ecology, geography, history and diversity of the Calumet Region's environment, economy and people combine to make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. We agree that the feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of South Shore Arts is to transform Lake Michigan's southern shore region through the arts. South Shore Arts executive director John Cain has served on the Calumet Heritage Partnership board for the past two years. In 2014, we hosted the annual Calumet Heritage Partnership conference in our gallery at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster. Subsequently, the South Shore Arts board identified collaborating with the Calumet Heritage Partnership as a strategic action in our organizational plan. Together, our two organizations have presented a successful exhibit of artwork depicting the Calumet Region's industrial heritage in Hammond and Crown Point, with an expanded version slated for the Indiana Welcome Center.

South Shore Arts fully supports the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area as its designation would further our own organizational goals and be a crucial asset to our region.

Sincerely,



John M. Cain
Executive Director



Co-Chair, Paul Rotatori
Co-Chair, Don Parker
info@southshoretrails.org
P.O. Box 183
Hobart, IN 46342-0183
southshoretrails.org

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

South Shore Trails, whom is composed of local groups a part of the South Shore Trails Network and individuals from Northwest Indiana who love to use our trails, paths, and bike lanes, is in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet region has such a great history that can be perfectly told via the trails and green/blue ways that connect the area. These connections/trails can move people from one area of the region to another as they see significant points of interest and rare plants/animals. Since the region is so large there's no better way to fully appreciate it than by traveling through it by bike on safely connected trails. While on these trails a story can then be told of how the industrial revolution transformed the area, how industry has faded, and now how old rail lines that once transported tons of steel now transport bikes as this land is being reclaimed again as green spaces. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

South Shore Trail's mission of promoting a safe way to actively travel throughout Northwest Indiana, via a connected system of trails, paths, and bike lanes, matches perfectly with the intended goals of preserving and telling the story of the Calumet region. The only way for us to achieve our mission is if the whole Calumet region is treated as one entity that is protected and connected. The goal of the Calumet NHA to "coordinate land management, ecological restoration, land acquisition, and trail development activities in key habitat areas" best describes why this study is so important to South Shore Trail's mission.

South Shore Trails offers its full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

SOUTH SUBURBAN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 917 Homewood, IL

May 5, 2017

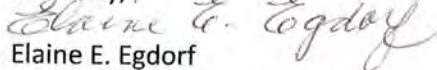
Mark Bouman, Ph.D
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The South Suburban Heritage Association strongly supports the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet Area is rich in cultural diversity and history which needs to be preserved and the stories shared. A Calumet National Heritage Area would fulfill this need and enhance the quality of life. Already people working together have made a difference and this project would encourage the participation of others. As a South Suburban Heritage Association we have been sponsoring conferences and tours since 1987 learning and promoting our fascinating history. Pulling historians, preservationists and environmentalists together from Illinois to Indiana would give us strength and is an opportunity we could have never envisioned. Already we are sharing information and expertise. On tours I have attended we are seeing progress. What more could be achieved by working together with national endorsement and support!

Sincerely,



Elaine E. Egdorf

President

South Suburban Heritage Association

Southeast Chicago Historical Society

9801 S. Ave G. Chicago, IL 60617
South Chicago South Deering East Side Hegewisch

April 29, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Southeast Chicago Historical Society submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

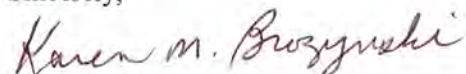
The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The Southeast Chicago Historical Society has had a representative on the Calumet Heritage Partnership Board since the early 2000's and continues to this day.

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of the Southeast Chicago Historical Society and would further our work through our Museum located at the Calumet Park Fieldhouse on Lake Michigan. The Museum houses a large collection of artifacts, maps, pictures and memorabilia from the four neighborhoods on the Southeast Side - South Chicago, East Side, Hegewisch and South Deering. We also have a very extensive collection from the major steel companies that were located in these neighborhoods - Wisconsin Steel, Republic Steel, US Steel (Southworks), Pressed Steel and Acme Steel.

The Southeast Chicago Historical Society offers it full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area.. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Karen M. Brozynski
President

Village of Thornton Historical Society

114 N. Hunter Street
P.O. Box 34
Thornton, Illinois 60476

May 12, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The Village of Thornton Historical Society submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

The Calumet region is a wealth of history, plants, animals and industry as well as cultural diversity. These resources and history of this area are significant and should be made known to residents and visitors to the area. There is definitely a need for a feasibility study of the Calumet National Heritage Area as it would create a stronger region with a sustainable future and enhanced quality of life.

The Village of Thornton Historical Society was organized to preserve and maintain the history of the Village of Thornton. The Village was settled in 1834 and platted in 1835 by John Kinzie of the notable Chicago Kinzies. Thornton was the seat of Thornton Township which covered a large area—the Grand Calumet River on the north, 183rd St. to the south, approximately 8 blocks beyond the Indiana state line to the east and a portion of Homewood to the west. The village was incorporated in 1900. Early residents were of German and Slovak descents.

Thornton does not have a large amount of business and/or industry. The greatest point of interest is the dolomite quarry which is the largest in the U.S.A. Each year, approximately 600 people enjoy a tour offered by the historical society. There is a five-year waiting list to attend. An abundance of history can be found at the Hoxie Farm/Wampum Lake area. The forest preserves were home to the Civilian Conservation Corps in the early 1940's and served as a German P.O.W. camp in 1944/1945.

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.

Mark J. Bauman, Ph. D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Page 2

The men in the CCC built roads, bridges and shelters in many south suburban forest preserves. Factories and farmers hired the P.O.W.'s to work during their internment here. The prisoners were so grateful for the humane treatment they received that they constructed an American flag in Sweet Woods to show their appreciation. With the cooperation of the forest preserve district, Thorn Creek and the abundance of forest preserves in the area could offer an abundance of environmental and recreational opportunities. With these attributes, the Village of Thornton Historical Society supports proposed Calumet NHA.

The Society offers its full support and may be able to offer space and possibly staff to make the Calumet NHA a success.

Sincerely,



Margaret Loitz



UNITED URBAN NETWORK, INC. COMMUNITY EDUCATION-ADVOCATES, LIASON & CONSULTANTS

May 11, 2017

Cassandra A. Cannon
United Urban Network, Inc.
CEO/Director
340 South Henry St.
Gary, Indiana 46403

Dear Dr. Bouman:

The United Urban Network, Inc. submits this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet Heritage Area.

The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area(NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

The mission of The United Urban Network, Inc. since 2008, has always been to establish and expand the environmental education system through out the Northwest In. and Illinois region. Since our beginnings with the Calumet Steward Initiative(CSI of Il.) as a member, and in representation of our region and nation(USA) 3 times internationally, at the Global Programs, Center for Humans & Nature Conferences(IUCN), and our continued partnership with CSI, the Paul H. Douglas Environmental Education Ctr., the Indiana Dunes Learning Ctr., and others; having worked along side of many of the Calumet NHA leadership and members, together, we continue to share efforts for environmental programs to become successful socially and ethnically everywhere..

We support the proposed Calumet NHA because it aligns with the goals of The United Urban Network, Inc. and would further our work to make all environmental education programs equal in academic quality, and accessible in schools and community settings, regardless of political

agendas, state borders, or financial status. As Co-chair, with Mario Longoni of the Field Museum for Community Outreach, grants and field trips, to help expand the environmental horizons of our students and communities would help us greatly.

If called upon, The United Urban Network, Inc. would contribute services, space, staff, funds (if possible) to make the Calumet NHA effort a success.

The United Urban Network, Inc. offers it's full support for the proposed Calumet national heritage Area. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,
Cassandra A. Cannon
CEO/Director
United Urban Network, Inc.

CASSANDRA A+ CANNON -CEO/DIRECTOR
CASSANDRACANNON@YAHOO.COM 219-839-0074

CULTURE + EDUCATION + ENTERTAINMENT

"ONE VISION, MANY POINTS OF VIEW"



La Porte County Conservation Trust Inc.

May 5, 2017

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Mark J. Bouman Ph.D.
Chicago Region
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA SUPPORT LETTER

Dear Dr. Bowman:

The La Porte County Conservation Trust (LPCCT) submits this letter in very strong support for the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

This remarkable landscape that makes up the Calumet Region is home to a remarkable collection of ecological and biological diversity, and cultural, ethnic and historical diversity, as well. This heritage of resources compose a region of considerable national significance, whose stories need to be told to its residents, its visitors and the nation as a whole.

Its feasibility study has clearly demonstrated the need for this Calumet National Heritage Area to become a reality. The critical role of such a federal designation can give this region a strong, sustainable future.

The mission of the LPCCT is to protect the natural diversity and scenic values of La Porte County, Indiana. I have personally served as the representative from the LPCCT to the Calumet NHA. I have attended meetings for this initiative, whenever it has been possible to do so. I additionally serve on the Shirley Heinze (SHLT) Advisory Committee.

Established in 1986 to protect the natural diversity and scenic values of La Porte County.

P. O. Box 367 La Porte, IN 46352 219-778-2810 www.lpcct.org

Calumet National Heritage Area Support Letter
La Porte County Conservation Trust, Inc.
Robert, Boklund, MSES, Vice President
May 5, 2017
Page 2

I have provided input in the form of substantially detailed commentary for both the initial concept and the feasibility study. In addition to serving as an officer of the LPCCT.

I am also a member of the La Porte-based historic preservation group, People Engaged-in Preservation (PEP). (Even though this letter is formally on behalf of the LPCCT, I am also confident that that PEP would also benefit from the goals of the Calumet NHA from all of the goals listed under Cultural Heritage/Historic Preservation, on page 68.)

The LPCCT could most assuredly benefit from all of the goals of the Calumet NHA listed under Environment And Stewardship, on page 67 of the Feasibility Study. And also from identification of natural heritage described on page 68 under Cultural Heritage/Historic Preservation.

If called upon, the LPCCT could also provide funding and some type of support to make the Calumet NHA successful.

The LPCCT offers its full support for the Calumet National Heritage Area. We very much look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Boklund, MSES
Vice President
La Porte County Conservation Trust, Inc. (LPCCT)

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of American Studies

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
ARTS & SCIENCES

June 12, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

As an historian of South Chicago and the Calumet region, and as Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Alabama, I write without reservation and in enthusiastic support of the creation and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

In addition to the area's rich environmental and ecological diversity, understanding the history and heritage of the Calumet region is central to understanding the history of American labor, industry, immigration, and racial/ethnic relations. It is hard to overestimate the importance of this region in the development of American industry and labor unions. With or without the other important aspects of this region addressed by others, the historical and cultural importance of this region alone calls for the creation of this NHA. This designation is crucial to preserving and maintaining the ecological diversity and heritage of the area.

My expertise is in Latino/a history, labor history, and the urban environment of the greater-Chicago area. In addition to various articles and book chapters, I wrote a book titled *Steel Barrio, The Great Mexican Migration to South Chicago: 1915-1940* (New York University Press, 2013).

I have provided advice and expertise at various points of the process to propose the Calumet NHA. If called upon by organizers of the Calumet NHA, I will continue to contribute advice and scholarly expertise in order to make this NHA a reality and a success. I enthusiastically support the proposed cultural, historical, artistic, recreational, and economic programs that the creation of a Calumet NHA would facilitate.



101 ten Hoor
Box 870214
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0214
(205) 348-5940

Please find enclosed a copy of my *cv* relevant to this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Innis-Jiménez", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Innis-Jiménez, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
Department of American Studies
University of Alabama
ij@ua.edu

Mondale Fellow in American Studies
Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Studies



April 26, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

I write in enthusiastic support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The compelling landscape of the Calumet region is home to globally rare plants and animals, steel mills that built the famous Chicago skyline, and communities rich in cultural diversity. Together, these heritage resources make up a nationally significant region whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a solid case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA) and the vital role this federal designation could play in creating a stronger region with a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life.

I am a historian of the Chicago region who has researched the metropolitan area for more than three decades. I am the author of three books on Chicago history, as well as the co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of Chicago* (2004). Through all of this work, I have learned of the great significance and importance of the Calumet to the history of the region, as well as to U.S. history. I provided my expertise for the feasibility study for a Calumet National Heritage Area, and would be happy to continue to offer my help in any way that I can. I feel sure that such a designation would promote better understanding and recognition of the importance of this region.

I offer my full support to make the Calumet NHA effort a success. I look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

Ann Durkin Keating
Toenniges Professor of History
North Central College

Thirty North Brainard Street • Naperville, Illinois 60540 • 630-637-5454 • Fax 630-637-5457



Department of History
3800 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-4444
Phone 513 745-2888
Fax 513 745-3215

May 8, 2017

Mark J. Bouman
Chicago Region Program Director
Keller Science Action Center
The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman,

I am pleased to submit this letter in support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area. The landscape and history of the Calumet Region is rich in its cultural diversity, deep in its historical significance, and compelling in its biodiversity. Taken together, the Calumet region is an area of profound importance to the histories of Chicago, the region, the Midwest and the nation. Contained within this history are compelling sites and stories which need to be preserved, remembered, and retold. The feasibility study makes a strong case for the need for a Calumet National Heritage Area which can and will encompass the broad sweeping history of the region. As a scholar who has written about the industrial history of Gary, I am especially invested in the preservation of the Calumet's unique and significant history. This is a story which I and others have longed studied and taught to examine both the large themes of American history as well as the intimate details of local history. At the same time, the heritage area designation would not only help preserve the industrial history and significance of the area, but also the biological and ecological history as well. Indeed what the Calumet continues to show us is the intimate and often problematic relationship between these two. This is a lesson worth remembering in the 21st century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Paul O'Hara".

S. Paul O'Hara
Associate Professor
Department of History
Xavier University
Cincinnati, Ohio

Kenneth J. Schoon

8010 Forest Avenue Munster, Indiana 46321

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of the establishment of a Calumet National Heritage Area.

I am the author of *Calumet Beginnings: Ancient Shorelines and Settlements at the South End of Lake Michigan*. (Indiana University Press, 2003). It was essential for me, when writing the book, that I include in the book both the Indiana and Illinois portions of the Calumet Area. This was because although the area is divided by state, county, and many municipal boundaries, the whole area shares the same geological, environmental, and pre-settlement history.

This area shaped by glaciers, wind, rain, and the currents and waves of Lake Michigan, has then within the last 215 years been reshaped by countless numbers of farmers, developers, and governmental agencies. And yet it retains the greatest biodiversity, acre for acre, than probably any other location in North America. Overlapping in the Calumet Area are the southern extremities of arctic plants, the northeastern extremity of American desert plants, the western extremity of the North American hardwood forests, and the eastern extremity of the great plain tall grass prairies. The rather small (compared to many great U.S. national parks) Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has greater biodiversity than nearly any other park on the continent.

It was this great diversity of living things that convinced a graduate student named Henry Chandler Cowles to conduct his Ph.D. research in the Indiana Dunes. This project resulted in confirmation of the theories of plant succession and gave to the area the nickname "birthplace of American ecology."

Yet this same land was the ideal location for heavy industry to grow. Although it nearly none of the raw materials needed for steel making, its position at the southern end of Lake Michigan provided cheap transportation for iron ore and limestone to be brought in from the north while extensive rail lines in the area could bring in coal from the south and east. This resulted in the creation of the world's largest integrated steel mill being situated here in 1906 – a mill along with others in close proximity that are still in operation. The world's largest cement plant was located nearby as was the world's largest refinery.

Heavy industry brought in workers from all over the world creating a wonderful kaleidoscope of neighborhoods, of churches, and of ethnic organizations, which reflect the various parts of the world these families came from. Yet all became Americans and the area's industry has provided the steel used to win two world wars and to fashion automobiles and other items, large and small, that have made life in the 21st century what it is today.

The Calumet Area of Illinois and Indiana holds a unique place in American history. I support its becoming a National Heritage Area. I remain

Very truly yours,

Kenneth J. Schoon, Ph.D.

MIT ANTHROPOLOGY

Christine J. Walley
 Professor of Anthropology
 Director of Graduate Studies, HASTS
 P 617.258.7908
 E cwalley@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/anthropology

June 13, 2017

Mark J. Bouman, Ph.D.
 Chicago Region Program Director
 Keller Science Action Center
 The Field Museum
 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
 Chicago, IL 60605-2496

Dear Dr. Bouman:

As an author and researcher of the Calumet region (and former resident) who is now based at MIT, I would like to submit this letter in strong support of the proposed feasibility study and designation of a *Calumet National Heritage Area*.

My own scholarly research has explored the rich social and environmental heritage of the Calumet region that includes a biodiverse wetlands area that is home to globally rare plants and animals as well as a human-created landscape associated with a once dominant steel industry and highly diverse communities that were linked to some of the most historically significant transformations in American life in the late 19th and 20th centuries. This region is a nationally significant one whose stories need to be told to residents, visitors, and the country. The feasibility study makes a compelling case for a Calumet National Heritage Area (NHA), and the federal designation would play a key role in creating a sustainable future with enhanced quality of life in the region.

The proposed Calumet NHA aligns closely with the goals of the research projects with which I've been involved. My previous work in the Calumet region is entitled "The Exit Zero Project" (www.exitzeroproject.com) and includes an award-winning book, *Exit Zero: Family and Class in Post-Industrial Chicago* (University of Chicago Press, 2013) and companion documentary film, *Exit Zero: An Industrial Family Story* (2017), made with filmmaker Chris Boebel.

Currently, and most relevantly to a future Calumet National Heritage Area, we are working with the community-based Southeast Chicago Historical Museum to create an online archive and storytelling site about the Calumet region. The project is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board and will feature oral histories, objects, images, and documents, including an extensive collection relating to the environment of the region. The website project will contribute to making the region's rich natural, cultural, and industrial history accessible to those outside the area and will be a site that prospective national heritage visitors can draw upon to learn more about the region in a way that is both educational and compelling. We have been aligned with the Calumet Heritage Partnership for a



Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 77 Massachusetts Avenue, E53-335R | Cambridge, MA 02142

number of years and are eager to continue working with them in the future to promote interest in the history and environment of the region.

We offer our full support for the proposed Calumet National Heritage Area and are interested in helping in whatever way possible to make the Calumet NHA effort a success. We look forward to continued partnership in this crucial initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. J. Walley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christine" and last name "Walley" clearly distinguishable.

Christine J. Walley
Professor of Anthropology



Calumet National
Heritage Area Initiative

FEASIBILITY STUDY